かわぐちかいじ

ジパング

ZIPANG 4

MORNING KC

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ZIPANG 4

かわぐちかいじ

講談社

撮影／北山宏二

戦車や戦闘機、軍艦などの精巧なプラモデルが出はじめたのは、私が小学校の高学年の頃だったろうか。小遣いを貯めて買っては、せっせと作ったものだ。最初に作ったのは、確かタミヤのパンサー戦車だった。リモコンで動くやつで、畳の上を砂漠に見立てて一晩中遊んだ。それからゼロ戦、メッサーシュミット、スピットファイアなど、戦闘機が多くなっていった。友達には器用なのがいたが、私はいつも下手っぴいだった。だが下手は下手なりに、ボンドがはみ出た1機のゼロ戦の向こうに、空母の甲板やラバウル基地を妄想して楽しんでいた。今思えば、あの妄想癖が高じて、漫画を描くようになったのである。

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9784063287592

雑誌 42662-59

ISBN4-06-328759-9

C9979 ¥505E (0)

1929979005054

モーニングKC
講談社 定価:本体505円(税別)

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Cover Illustrations by KAIJI KAWAGUCHI
Cover Designed by ARTEN
Title Lettering Designed by JUICHI YOSHIKAWA

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KAIJI KAWAGUCHI

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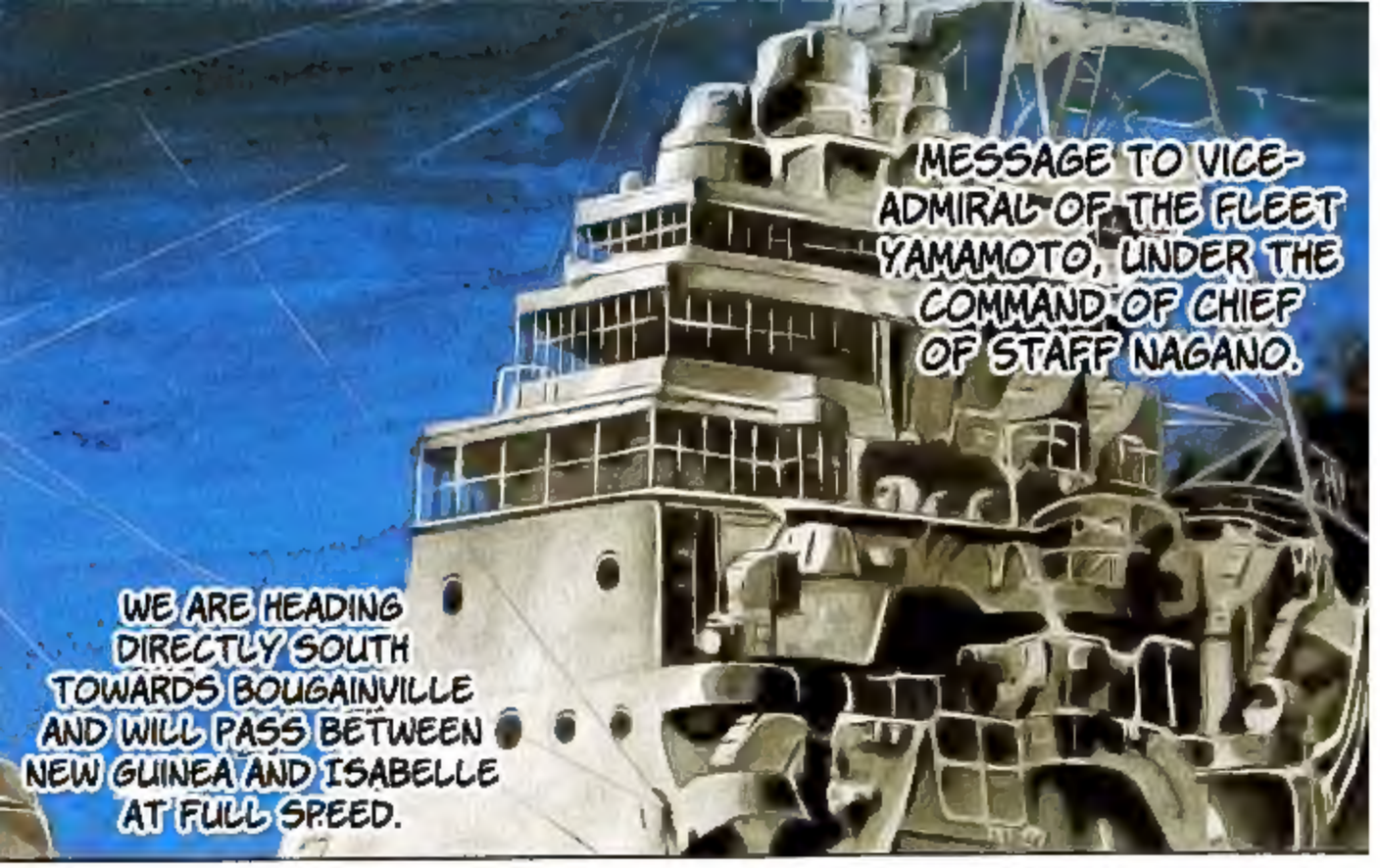
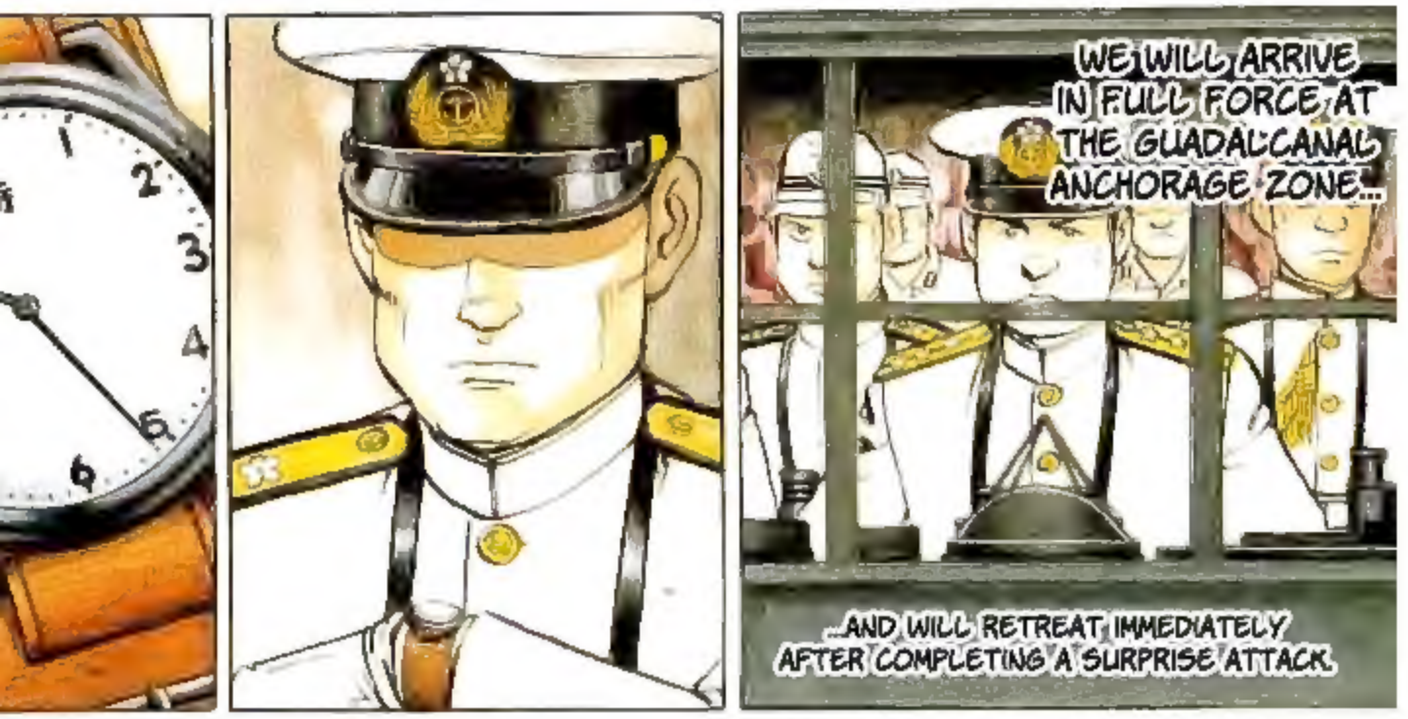
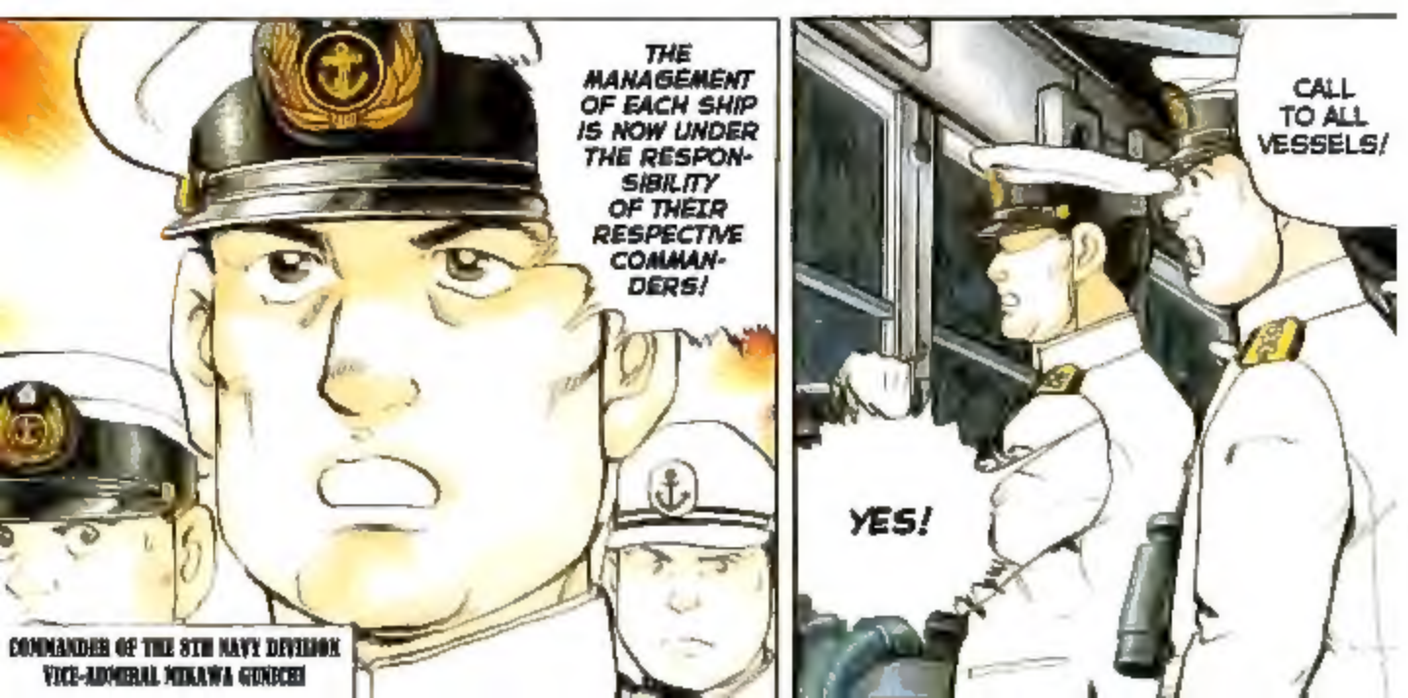
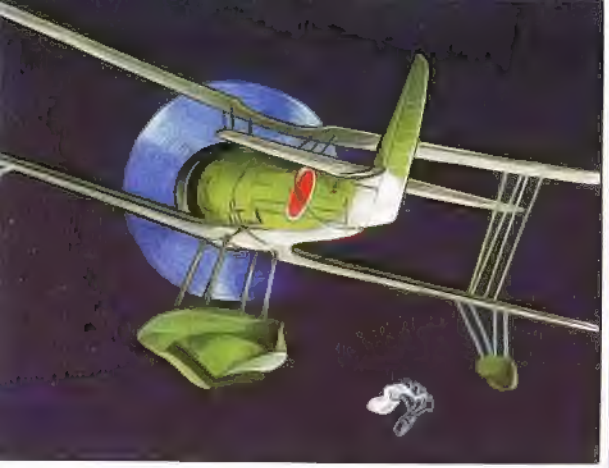
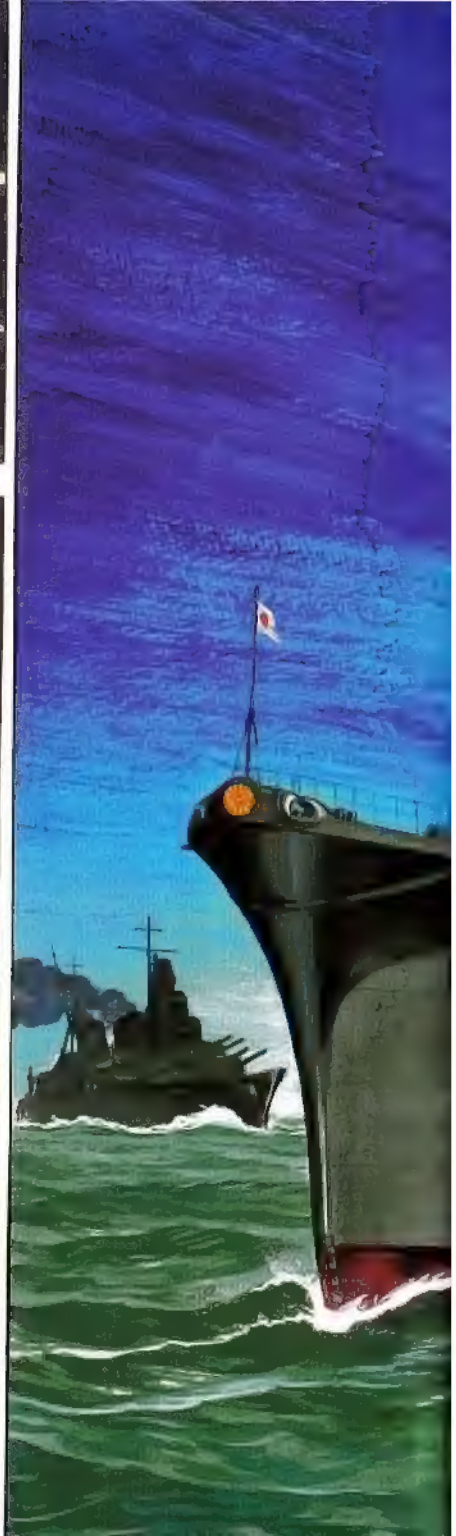

MESSAGE TO VICE-ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET YAMAMOTO, UNDER THE COMMAND OF CHIEF OF STAFF NAGANO.
WE ARE HEADING DIRECTLY SOUTH TOWARDS BOUGAINVILLE AND WILL PASS BETWEEN NEW GUINEA AND ISABELLE AT FULL SPEED.


WE WILL ARRIVE IN FULL FORCE AT THE GUADALCANAL ANCHORAGE ZONE...
...AND WILL RETREAT IMMEDIATELY AFTER COMPLETING A SURPRISE ATTACK.


THE MANAGEMENT OF EACH SHIP IS NOW UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMANDERS!
COMMANDER OF THE 8TH NAVY DIVISION VICE-ADMIRAL MIKAWA GUNICHI
CALL TO ALL VESSELS!
YES!





ZIPANG

WAKE 32: 8TH DIVISION, CHARGE!

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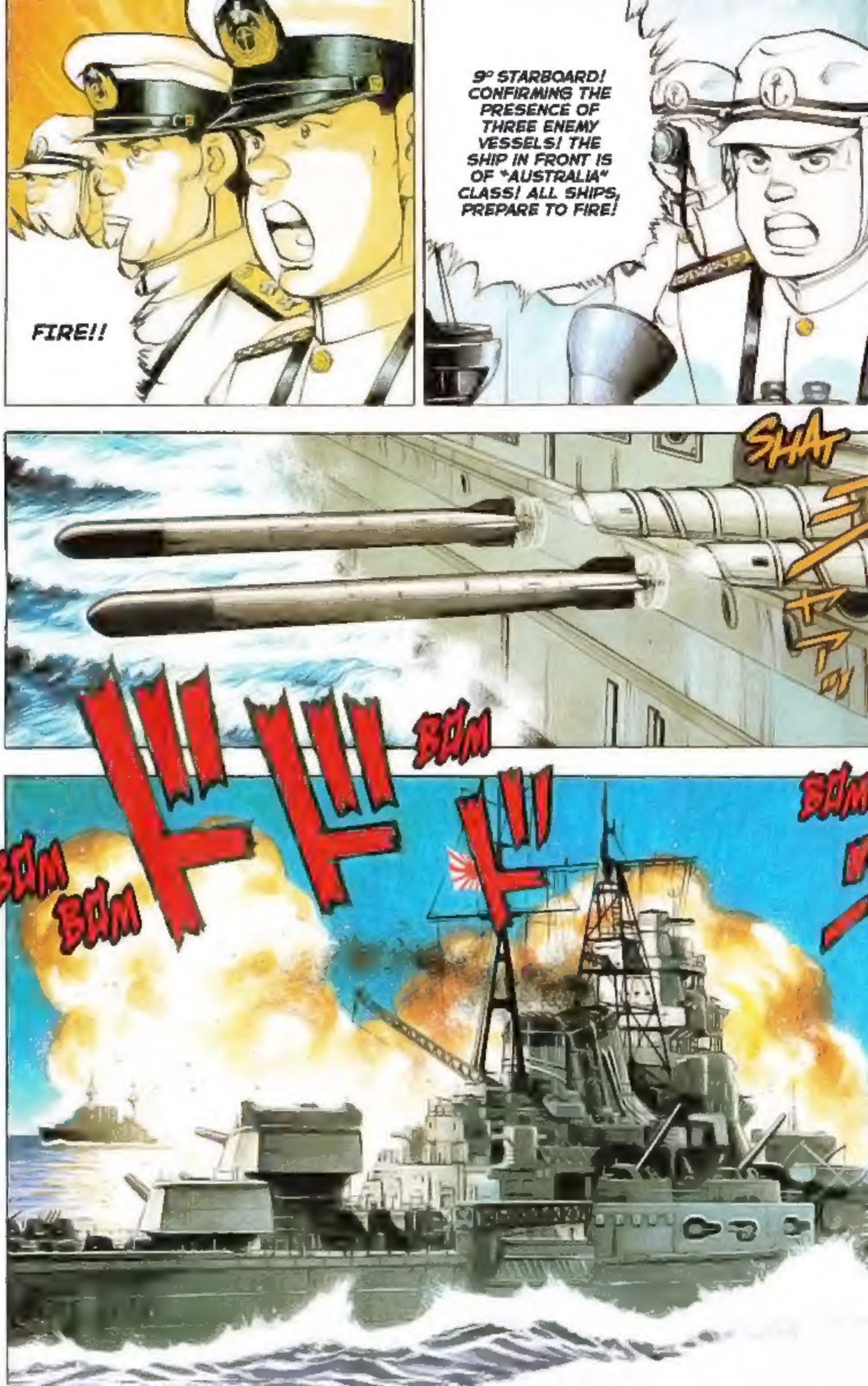
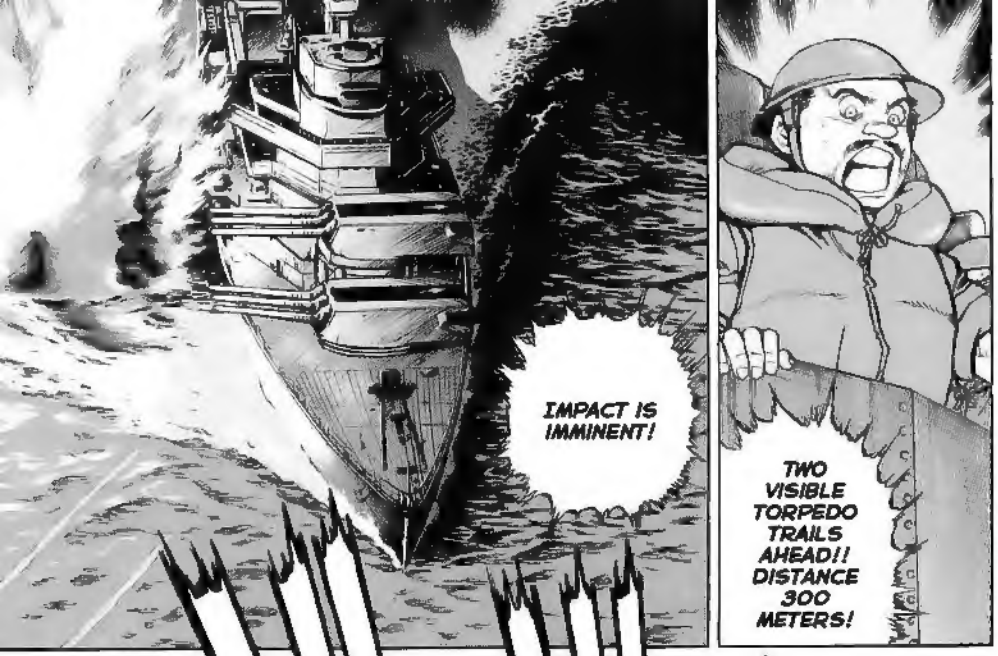
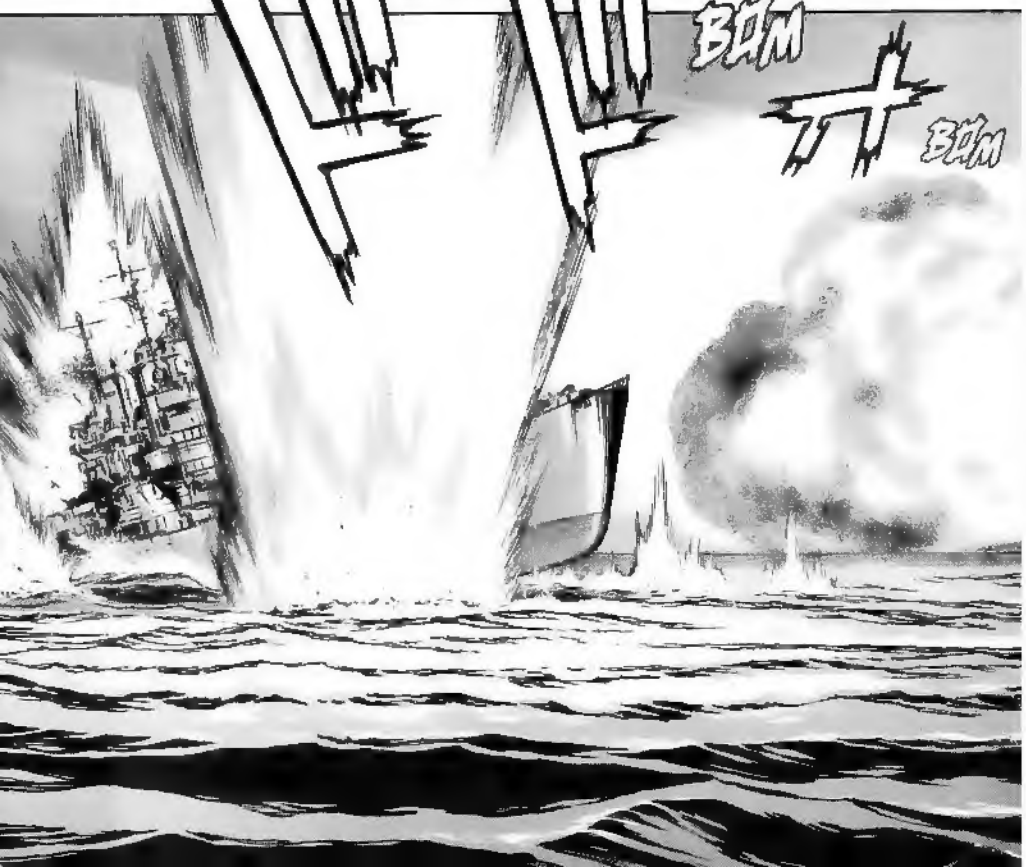

FIRE!!
9° STARBOARD! CONFIRMING THE PRESENCE OF THREE ENEMY VESSELS! THE SHIP IN FRONT IS OF "AUSTRALIA" CLASS! ALL SHIPS, PREPARE TO FIRE!
SHAT
BÖM
BÖM
BÖM
BÖM

Bii
ALERT!!!
SEVERAL UNIDENTIFIED VESSELS APPROACHING!
Bii
Bii
THEY'VE JUST OPENED FIRE!
TO YOUR POSITIONS, PREPARE FOR COMBAT!


IMPACT IS IMMINENT!
TWO VISIBLE TORPEDO TRAILS AHEAD!! DISTANCE 300 METERS!


BUM
BUM

FIRE!!!

LEADING VESSELS HIT BY TWO TORPEDOES!! SEVERAL IMPACTS CONFIRMED! VESSEL HAS BEEN STOPPED!!

THE OTHER VESSELS AT ITS TAIL ARE TURNING LEFT!

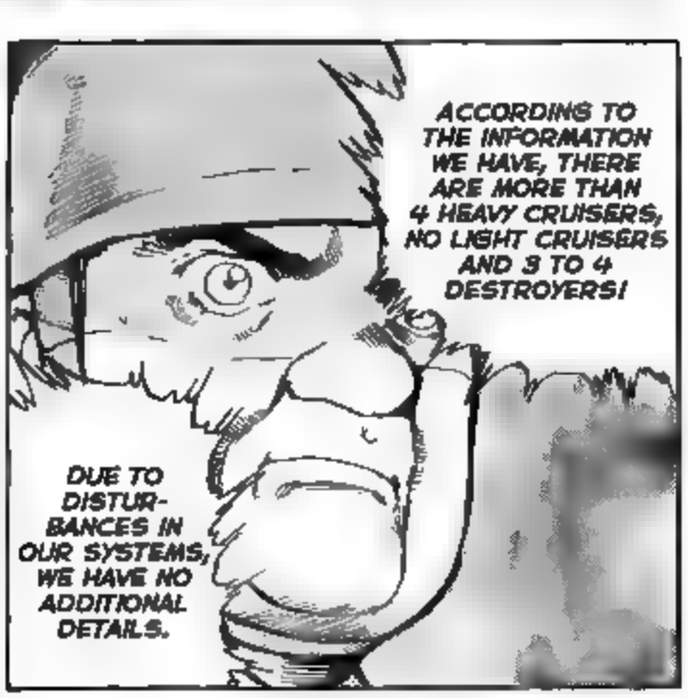
FIRE!!!
FIVE SHIPS SPOTTED PORTSIDE!
LIGHT THE PRO-JECTORS!

WHAT!? THE JAPS ARE ATTACKING!?
THE McCAULEY, AMERICAN TRANSPORT SHIP

ANY DETAILS ON THE SHIPS?

THE SOUTHERN DEFENCE FLEET HAS INITIATED CONTACT WITH ENEMY VESSELS!

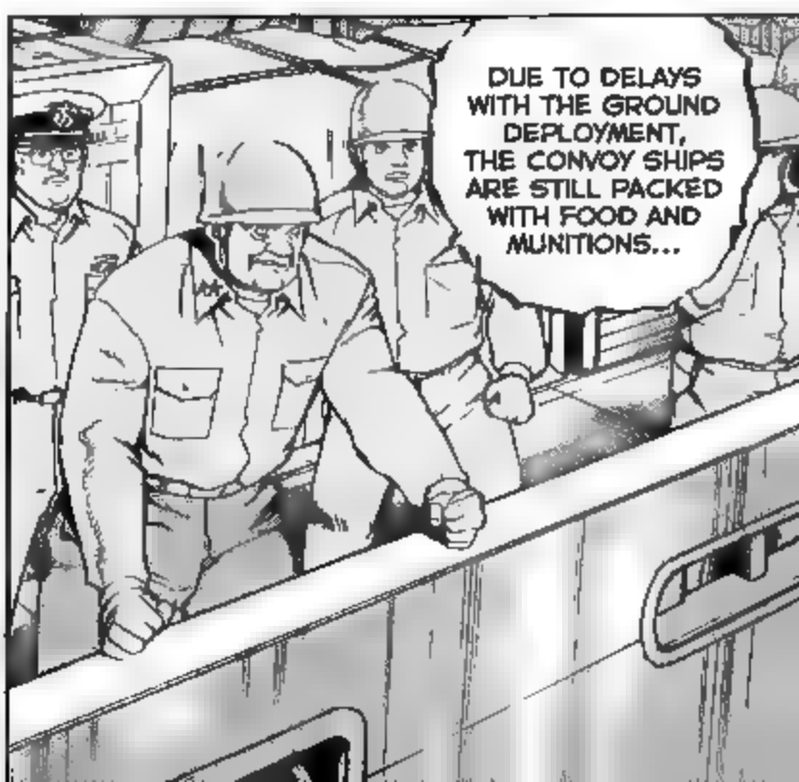
YES, SIR!
CALL ADMIRAL CRUTHCLEY OF THE ROYAL NAVY, AS WELL AS ADMIRAL TURNER!


ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION WE HAVE, THERE ARE MORE THAN 4 HEAVY CRUISERS, NO LIGHT CRUISERS AND 3 TO 4 DESTROYERS!
DUE TO DISTUR-BANCES IN OUR SYSTEMS, WE HAVE NO ADDITIONAL DETAILS.

!

IT'S THE CONVOY!!
THEIR TARGET ISN'T THE DEFENCE FLEET!!

IF THEY GET SUNK, WE, THE MARINES...
...WILL BE COMPLETELY ISOLATED...

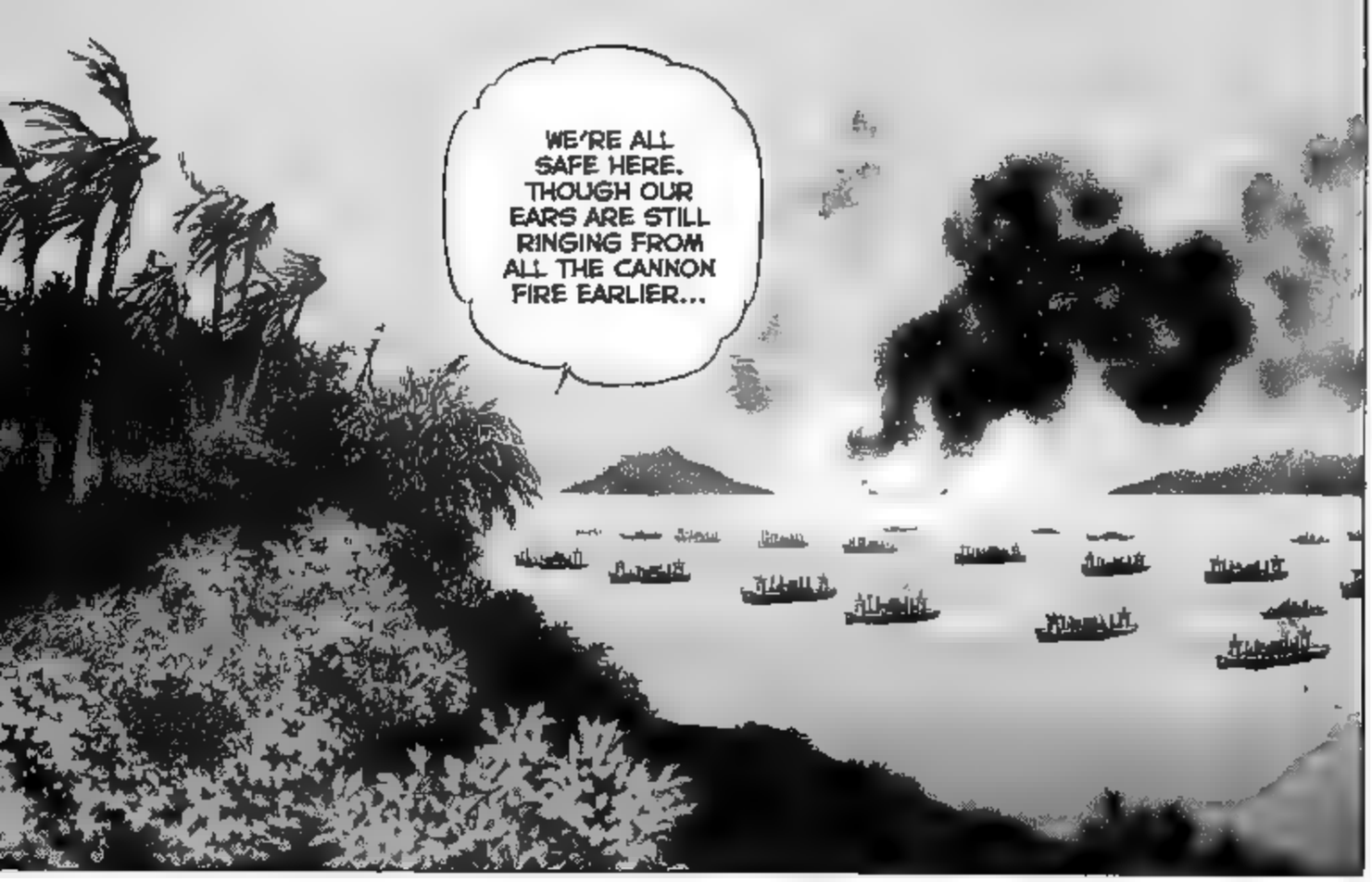

DUE TO DELAYS WITH THE GROUND DEPLOYMENT, THE CONVOY SHIPS ARE STILL PACKED WITH FOOD AND MUNITIONS...

URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE CIC!
SIGNS OF A NAVAL CONFRON-TATION NORTH OF GUADAL-CANAL!!
182

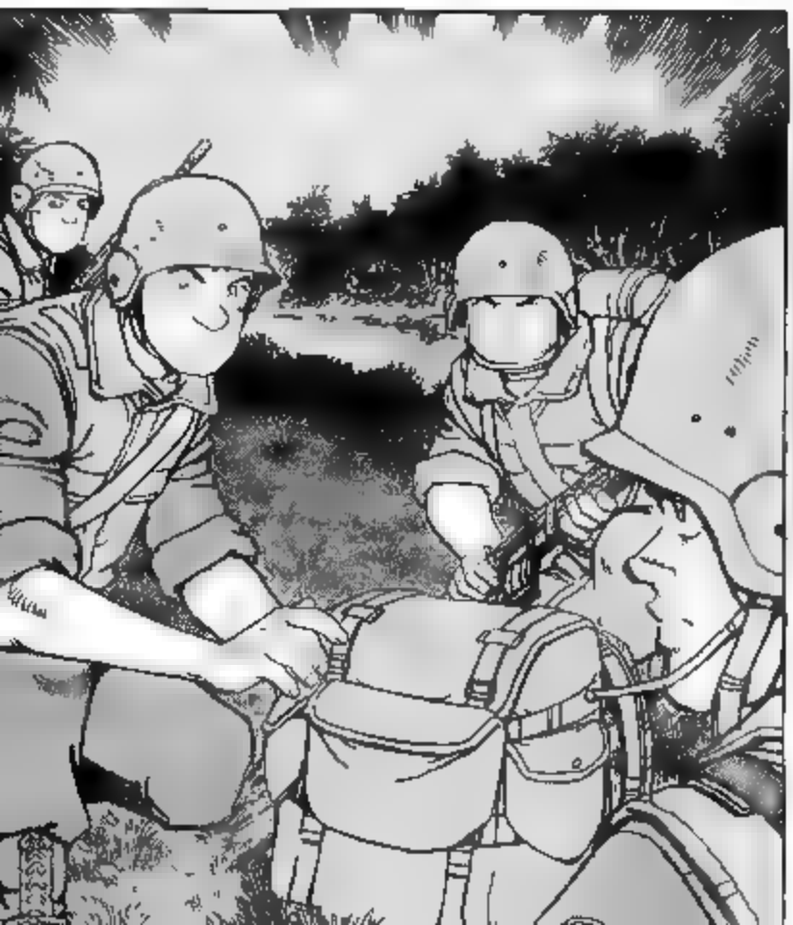
FOLLOWING AN OFFENSIVE LED BY THE 8TH DIVISION, IT SEEMS THE ALLIED FLEET HAS SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES!

BOM
182
YOKOSUKA
AND NEITHER DID KUSAKA!!
THE JAPANESE NAVY NEVER HAD ANY INTENTION OF LOSING GUADAL-CANAL!
TAP
SO THIS IS YOUR ANSWER, EH?

TAC
ABORTING THE GUADALCANAL OPERATION!? PFFF!! RUBBISH!!
YAMATO
WE MUST SUCCEED AT ALL COSTS!
HE CANNOT BE TRUSTED!!
YOSUKE!! YOU SEE, KUSAKA IS VERY MUCH STILL A SOLDIER OF THE IMPERIAL NAVY!


WE'RE ALL SAFE HERE. THOUGH OUR EARS ARE STILL RINGING FROM ALL THE CANNON FIRE EARLIER...

WE'RE CURRENTLY HEADING TOWARDS THE DROP-OFF ZONE FOR THE RED BEACH MARINES.

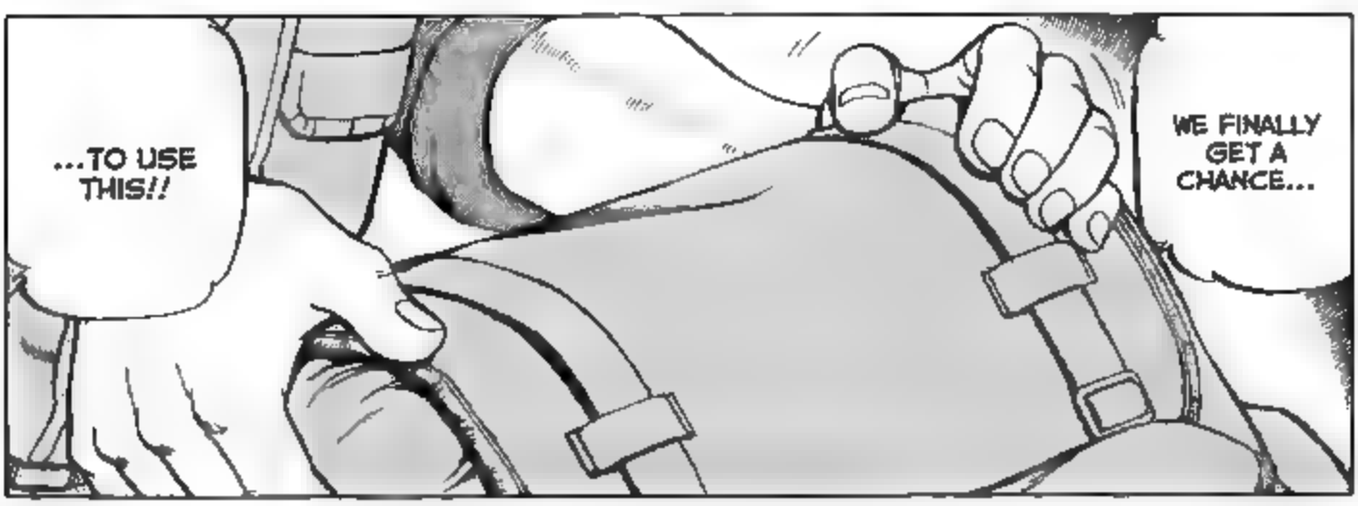


SO THOSE CANNONS REALLY WERE BEING FIRED FROM MIKAWA'S FLEET...
IN ACCOR-DANCE WITH HISTORY...

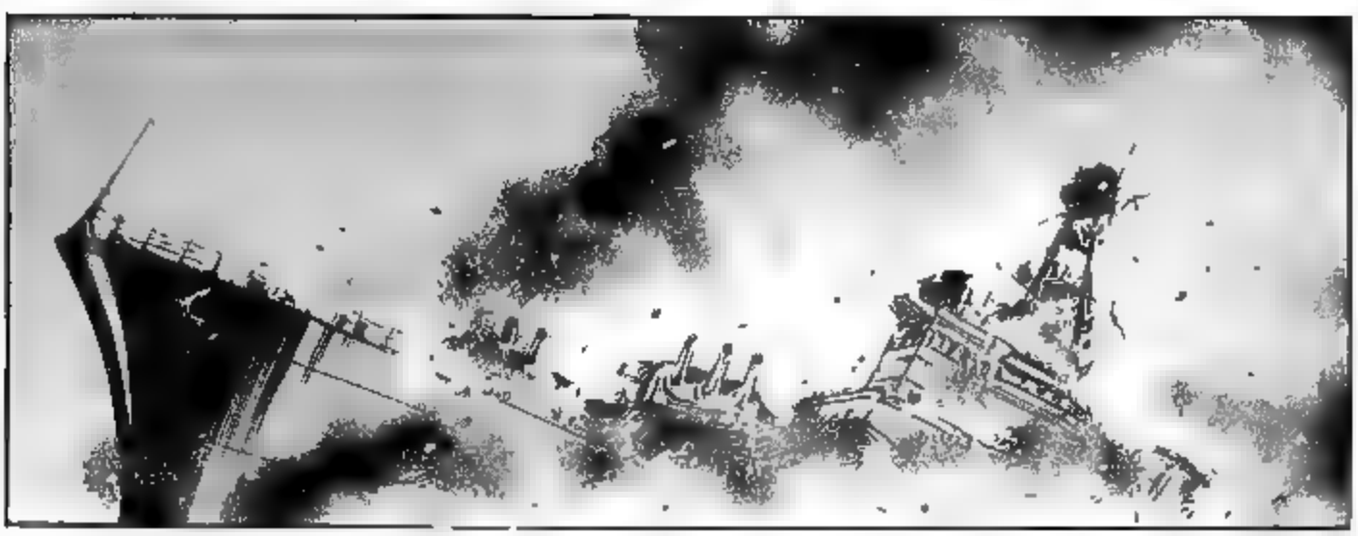
WHAT IF KUSAKA INTENDS TO CAPTURE THIS ISLAND?
IN THAT CASE, WE SHOULD FOCUS OUR ATTENTION ON MIKAWA'S MEN...
HOWEVER, FEARING THE PRESENCE OF ENEMY PLANES, VICE-ADMIRAL MIKAWA LEFT WITHOUT BRINGING HIS PLAN TO FRUITION, THAT IS, ATTACKING THE CONVOY, THOSE ARE THE HISTORICAL FACTS...
MIKAWA'S FLEET SUDDENLY ERUPTED, AND IN LESS THAN 30 MINUTES, THEY LAID WASTE TO THE ALLIED FORCES' PATROLS.
AND WHAT IF IT GOES ACCORDING TO HISTORY...?
KNOWING THAT THERE ARE NO PLANES PRESENT, HE SHOULD HIT THE CONVOY.
YOKOSUKA
182
THE NAVAL OFFENSIVE ALERTS TURNER TO THE DANGER, WHO DROPS OFF MARINE TROOPS AND...
...LEAVES THE AREA THAT SAME AFTERNOON.

THAT IS OUR OBJECTIVE!
BUT IF THE SHIPS LEAVE DESPITE BEING EMPTY, WE WILL HAVE LOST EVERYTHING. VANDERGRIFT'S MARINES MUST LEAVE WITH THEM.

WE WILL COMPLETELY BREAK THE MARINES' MORALE!
...WE'LL BEGIN THE OPERATION!
YES. START SCHEDULED FOR 3 O'CLOCK SHARP.
IF MIKAWA LEAVES THE AREA WITHOUT ATTACKING THE CONVOY...


...TO USE THIS!!
WE FINALLY GET A CHANCE...

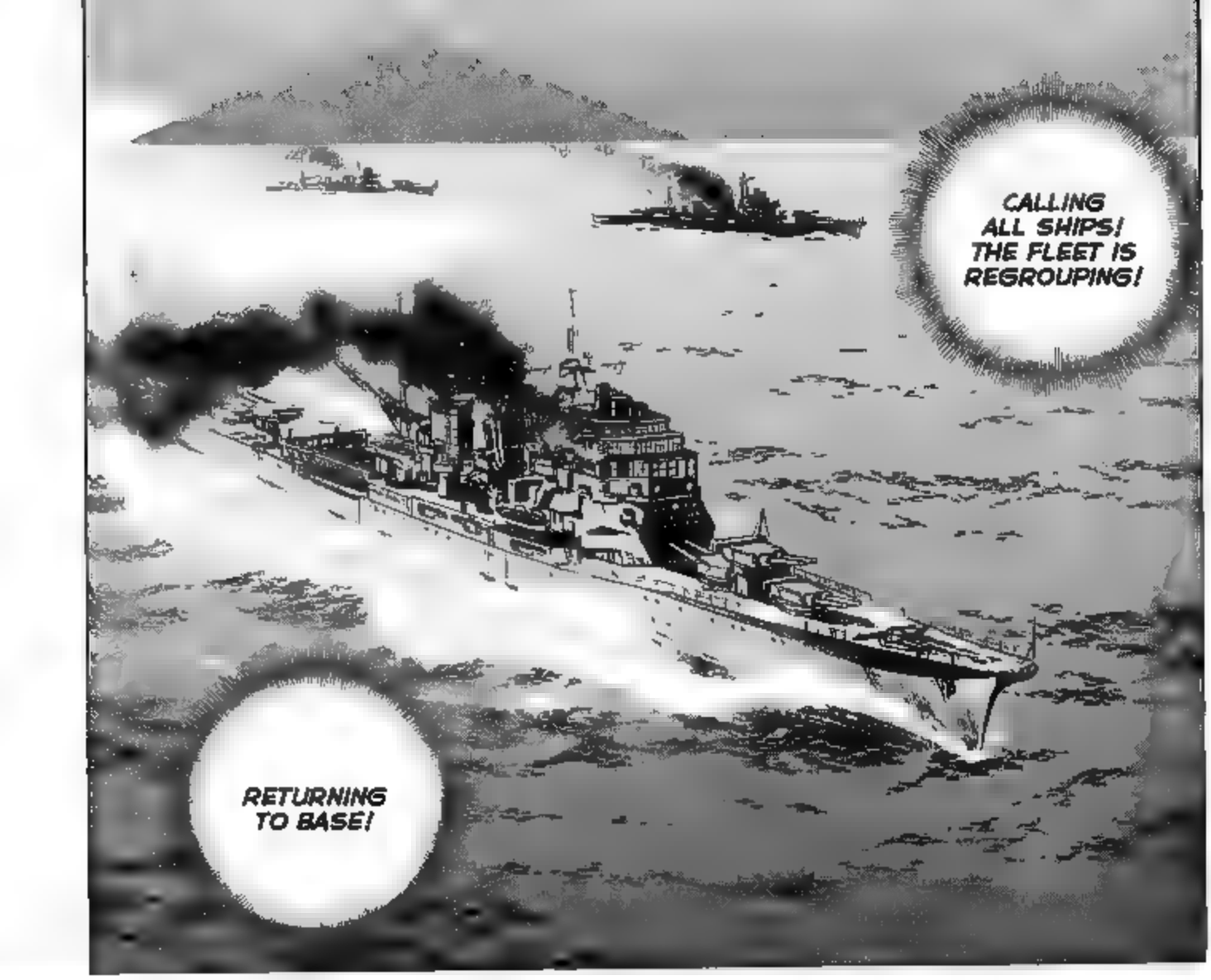
WE'LL GET AS CLOSE TO THE ENEMY TROOPS AS POSSIBLE!
OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO FIND THE SUPPLIES LEFT ON THE BEACH!



ADMIRAL MIKAWA, HERE IS THE REPORT!

...THE SHIP'S STEERING AND WEAPONS SYSTEMS ARE INTACT!!
WE HAVE SUFFURED DAMAGES TO SEVERAL AREAS, INCLUDING THE MAP ROOM AND THE ADMIRAL'S QUARTERS.
VERY WELL.
WE ALSO HAVE SEVERAL WOUNDED, HOWEVER...
IT'S OUR TOTAL VICTORY!!
FOUR OF THEIR CRUISERS WRE SUNK AND TWO DESTROYERS DESTROYED! THEIR LOSSES ARE MUCH BIGGER THAN OURS!
THIS IS THE PERFECT CHANCE TO SET THE CONVOY'S ATTACK PLAN INTO MOTION!
LET'S DEAL THE FINISHING BLOW!!

WHAT?
NO...
THEIR AVIATION ISN'T HERE...THEIR PLANES WON'T BOMBARD US.
WE DON'T KNOW IF ENEMY AVIATION ARE NEARBY, BUT WE'VE GOT NOTHING TO DEAR!
GOOD... THEN THE FLEET WILL JUMP INTO ACTION!
FLEET, REGROUP!!
VERY WELL, YOU'VE ALL DONE A GOOD JOB.
OUR MISSION ENDS HERE.

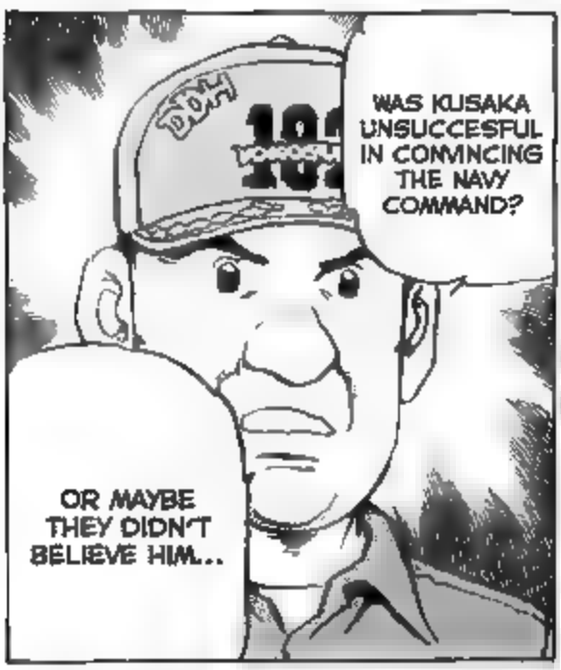

CALLING ALL SHIPS! THE FLEET IS REGROUPING!
RETURNING TO BASE!

ALL SHIPS! LINE FORMATION!
BE VIGILANT OF ENEMY MOVEMENT UNDERWATER!

WHY!?
WHY ARE WE RETREATING?

MIKAWA'S FLEET IS HEADING NORTH-WEST!
THEY SEEM TO BE RETURNING TO BASE!

BiP


WAS KUSAKA UNSUCCESFUL IN CONVINCING THE NAVY COMMAND?
OR MAYBE THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE HIM...

THE ADMIRAL DIDN'T ATTACK THE CONVOY, EXACTLY AS HISTORY SAYS... IT'S THE FIRST PHASE OF THE JAPANESE ARMY'S RETREAT FROM GUADALCANAL.

KADOMATSU HERE... CAPTAIN, I'M NOT USED TO BEING TALKED TO LIKE THIS...

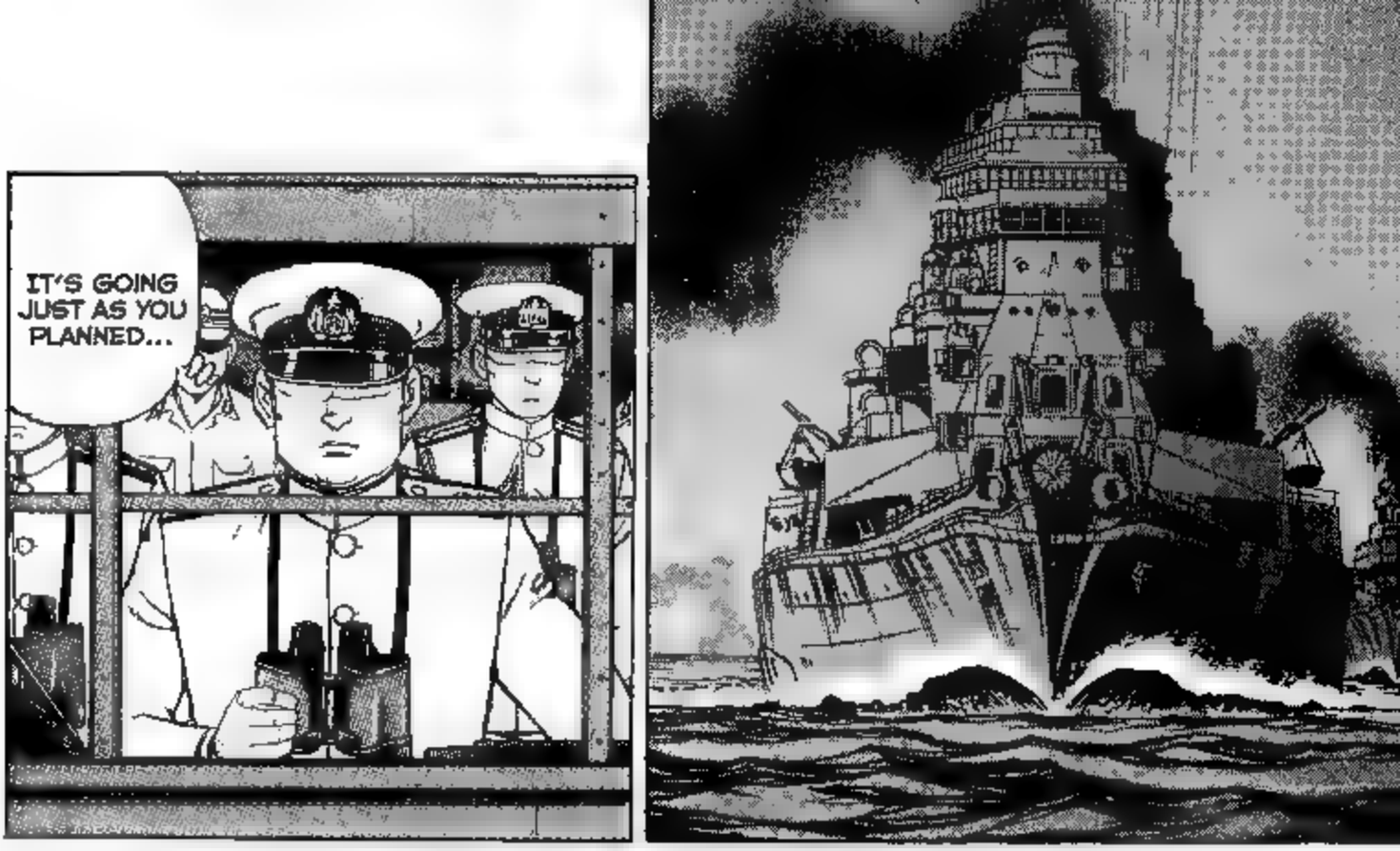
MIRAI CONTROL CENTER TO COM-MANDER.
CAN YOU HEAR ME!?

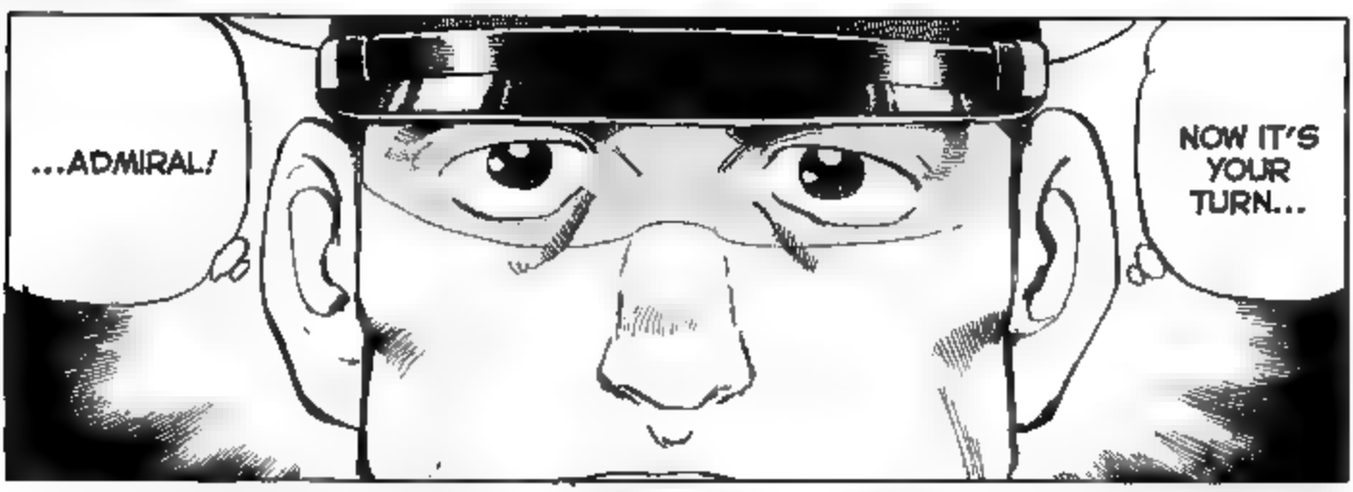
ADMIRAL MIKAWA'S 8TH DIVISION HAS LEFT THE AREA.

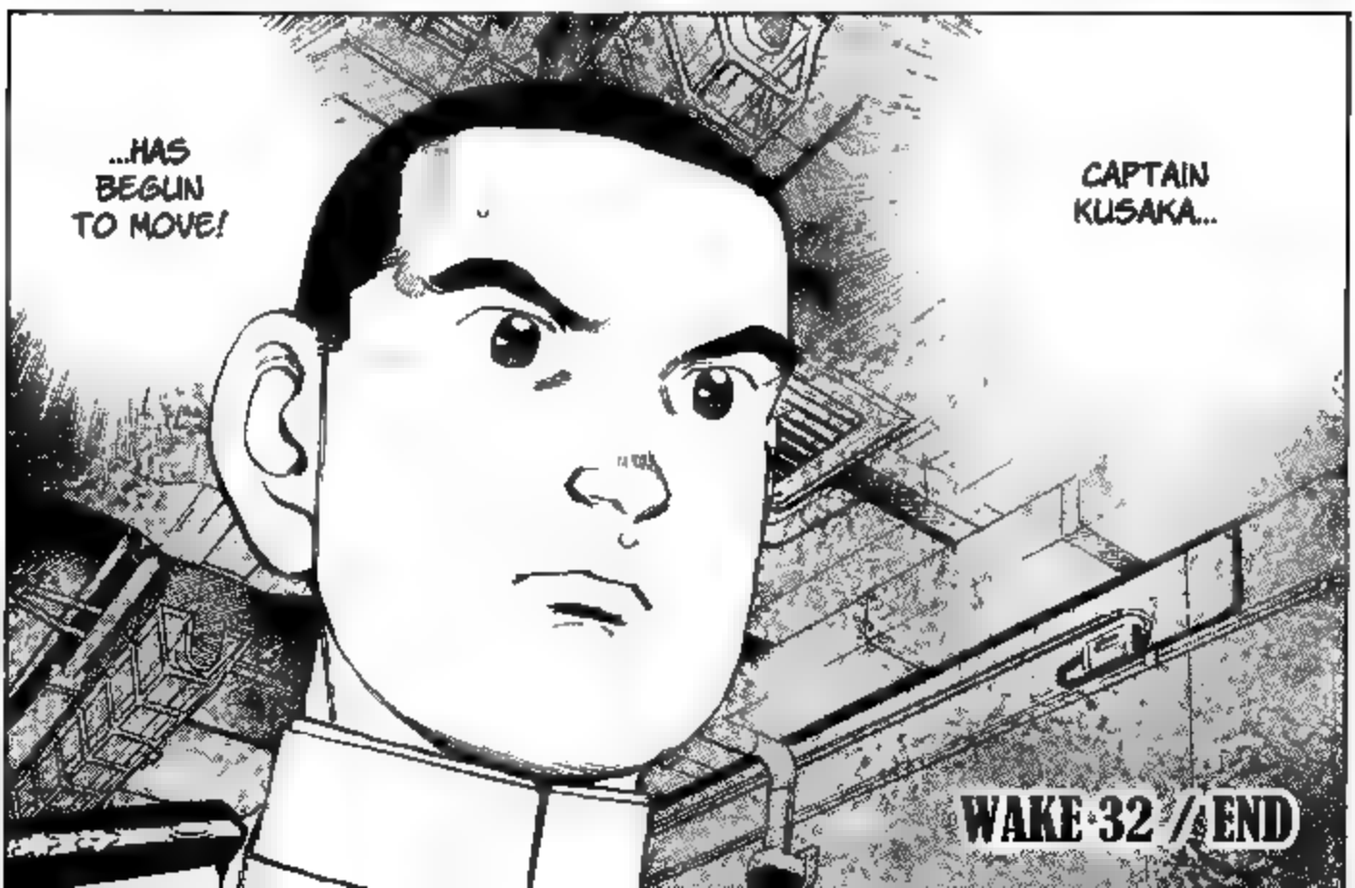
...WE WILL BEGIN...

AT 3 O'CLOCK SHARP...

...OPERATION SAGITTARIUS!


IT'S GOING JUST AS YOU PLANNED...


...ADMIRAL!
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN...


...HAS BEGUN TO MOVE!
CAPTAIN KUSAKA...
WAKE 32 / END

TRANSLATOR- NCRDRG
EDITORS- ANIMEFANATIC,
ETERNAL DREAMER
QC'ER- FLESHCUT
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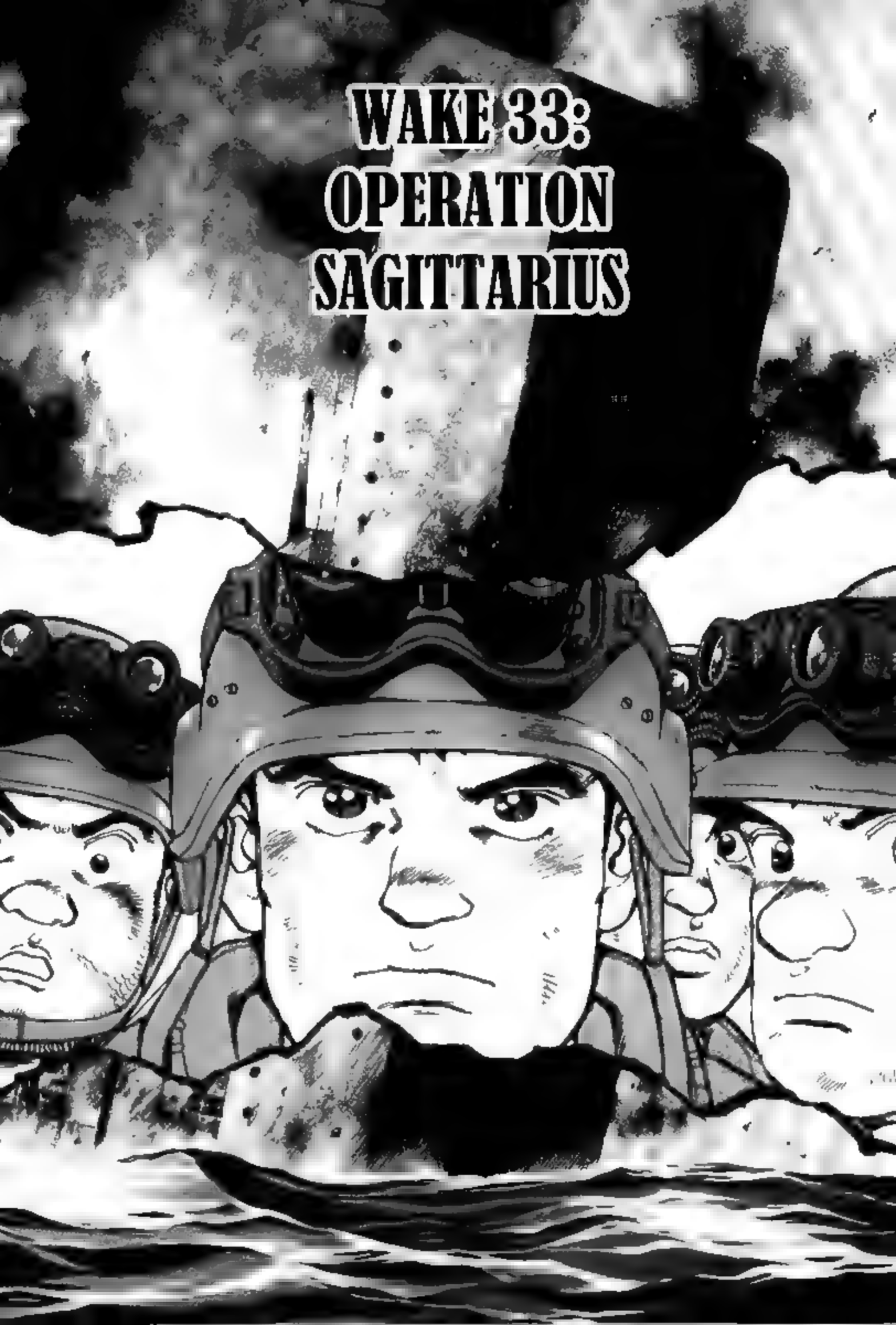
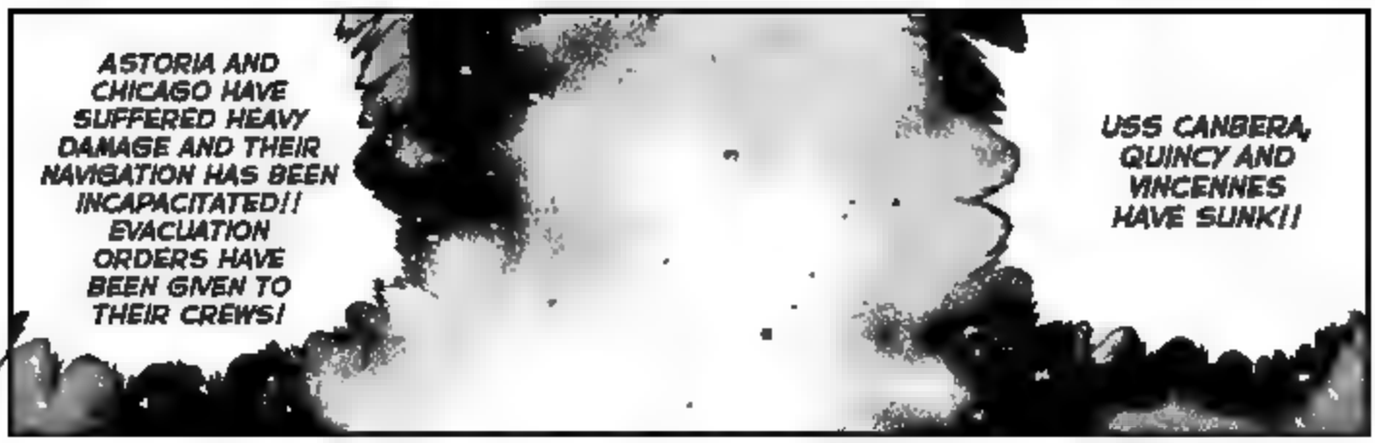
post on our forum or talk to staff on irc.


WAKE 33:
OPERATION
SAGITTARIUS

DAMAGE REPORT!!

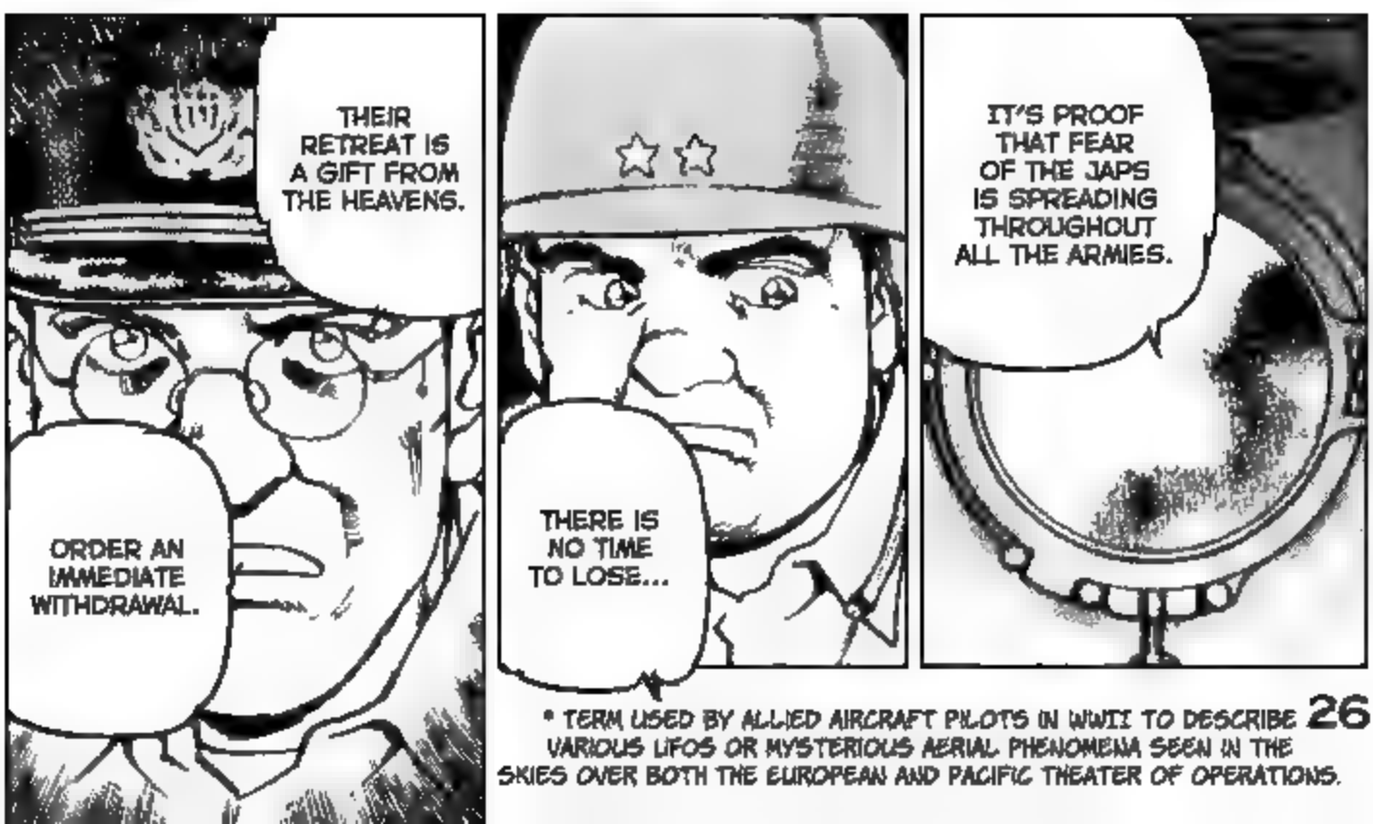

ASTORIA AND CHICAGO HAVE SUFFERED HEAVY DAMAGE AND THEIR NAVIGATION HAS BEEN INCAPACITATED!! EVACUATION ORDERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THEIR CREWS!
USS CANBERA, QUINCY AND VINCENNES HAVE SUNK!!

AND WHAT IS THE JAPANESE FLEET DOING!?

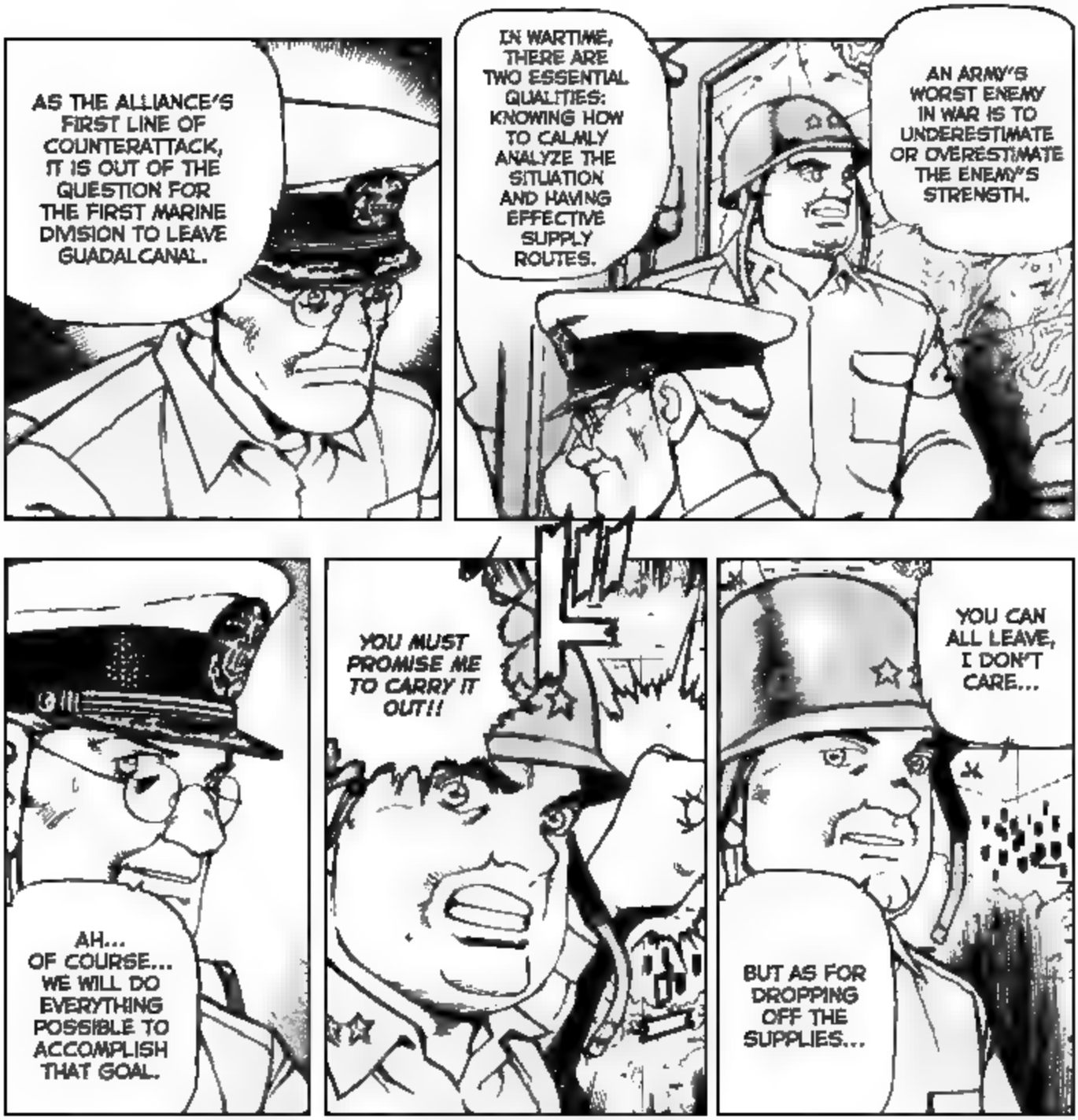
AT 2H20, IT LEFT THE COMBAT ZONE AND HEADED NORTH-WEST.
AH...
THEY WITH-DREW...!?
WE'VE BEEN DEFEATED...

THEY'RE STRONG... OUR ASIAN FLEET HAS BEEN DEFEATED... THE DRIVING FORCE OF THE ZEROS IS TERRIFYING...
COMMANDER OF THE DEFENCE TROOPS
REAR-ADMIRAL OF THE ROYAL NAVY
V.A.C CRUTCHLEY
AN ISLAND COUNTRY DOING ALL IT CAN TO COMPENSATE FOR ITS LACK OF RESOURCES BY RELYING ON TECHNOLOGY AND NUMBERS...
COMMANDER OF THE DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT TROOPS
REAR-ADMIRAL RICHMOND K. TURNER

TORPEDOES WITH SONAR!? WOULD THEY HAPPEN TO BE THE LEGENDARY FOO FIGHTERS*!?
WE'VE ALSO RECEIVED THE REPORT OF A SUBMARINE COMMANDER CLAIMING TO HAVE COME ACROSS A JAPANESE CRUISER EQUIPPED WITH CHASER TORPEDOES WITH INTEGRATED SONAR..


THEIR RETREAT IS A GIFT FROM THE HEAVENS.
ORDER AN IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL.
THERE IS NO TIME TO LOSE...
IT'S PROOF THAT FEAR OF THE JAPS IS SPREADING THROUGHOUT ALL THE ARMIES.

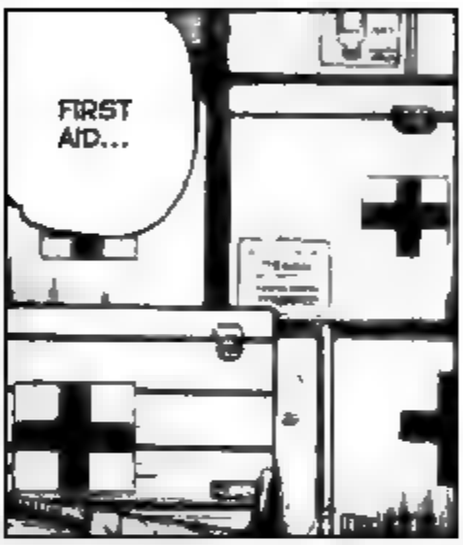
* TERM USED BY ALLIED AIRCRAFT PILOTS IN WWII TO DESCRIBE VARIOUS UFOS OR MYSTERIOUS AERIAL PHENOMENA SEEN IN THE SKIES OVER BOTH THE EUROPEAN AND PACIFIC THEATER OF OPERATIONS.


AS THE ALLIANCE'S FIRST LINE OF COUNTERATTACK, IT IS OUT OF THE QUESTION FOR THE FIRST MARINE DIVISION TO LEAVE GUADALCANAL.
IN WARTIME, THERE ARE TWO ESSENTIAL QUALITIES: KNOWING HOW TO CALMLY ANALYZE THE SITUATION AND HAVING EFFECTIVE SUPPLY ROUTES.
AN ARMY'S WORST ENEMY IN WAR IS TO UNDERESTIMATE OR OVERESTIMATE THE ENEMY'S STRENGTH.
AH... OF COURSE... WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ACCOMPLISH THAT GOAL.
YOU MUST PROMISE ME TO CARRY IT OUT!!
YOU CAN ALL LEAVE, I DON'T CARE...
BUT AS FOR DROPPING OFF THE SUPPLIES...

THEY STILL HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT MIDWAY. WE FEAR THEM, BUT THEY ALSO FEAR US...
A GIFT FROM THE HEAVENS? PFFF! THE JAPS ONLY LEFT BECAUSE DAMAGING THE SHIPS ENTRUSTED TO THEM BY THEIR EMPEROR IS THEIR GREATEST FEAR.

FOOD...
AND WATER...

MUNI-
TIONS!!!
U.S. ARMY
663
DANGER
EXPLOSIVE


FIRST
AID...

ENOUGH
SUPPLIES FOR
11,000 MARINES
TO FIGHT FOR
A WEEK...

...
SO, WHAT WILL WE AIM FOR, CAPTAIN?

FLOUR!?
SHOULDN'T WE HIT THE MUNITIONS CACHE INSTEAD?

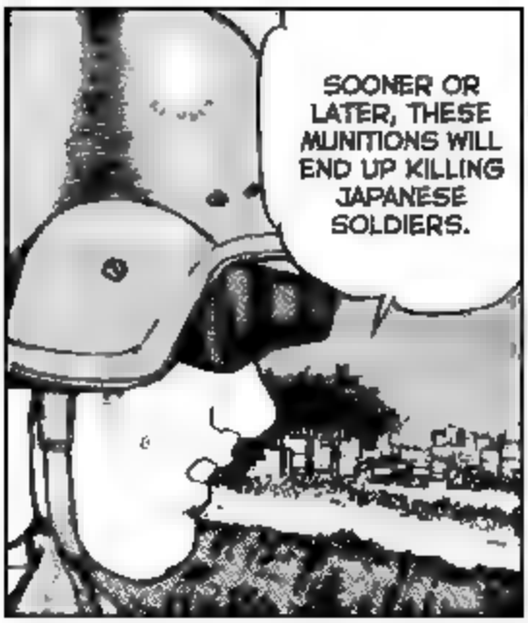
...OVER THERE...

THE FOOD...
STACKED UP...

IF YOU WANT TO GAIN THE ADVANTAGE, YOU NEED TO TAKE THE ENEMY BY SURPRISE.

CERTAINLY, IF WE BLOW EVERYTHING UP, THE MARINES WILL PROBABLY LOSE THE WILL TO FIGHT.

AND THE SHIPS OUT THERE WILL DEFINITELY SEE THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY IT CREATES.


SOONER OR LATER, THESE MUNITIONS WILL END UP KILLING JAPANESE SOLDIERS.

I KNOW, BUT...

OGURI... IF WE BLOW THAT UP, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA AS TO HOW MANY DEATHS IT COULD LEAD TO?

SAGITTARIUS IS AN INTIMIDATION OPERATION, NOT A BATTLE!

LISTEN UP! IF OUR OBJECTIVE WAS TO CAUSE A MASSACRE, WE WOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE!

JAPANESE OR AMERICAN, A LIFE IS A LIFE. ONCE EXTINGUISHED, IT CAN'T BE LIT BACK UP. DON'T YOU EVER FORGET THAT!
...

YES, BUT... IF THIS DOESN'T SCARE THEM...
...THEN WHAT?

AMERICAN SOLDIERS ARE WEAK AGAINST AN INVISIBLE MENACE HIDING IN THE JUNGLE. VIETNAME PROVED IT.

YES, SIR!!!
IT'S TIME.
PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS ENOMOTO! PREPARE THE LASER GUIDER.
READY TO LAUNCH OPERATION SAGITTARIUS!
KADOMATSU TO CIC...

ME...?
YES, BUT IT IS ALSO ADDRESSED TO YOU.

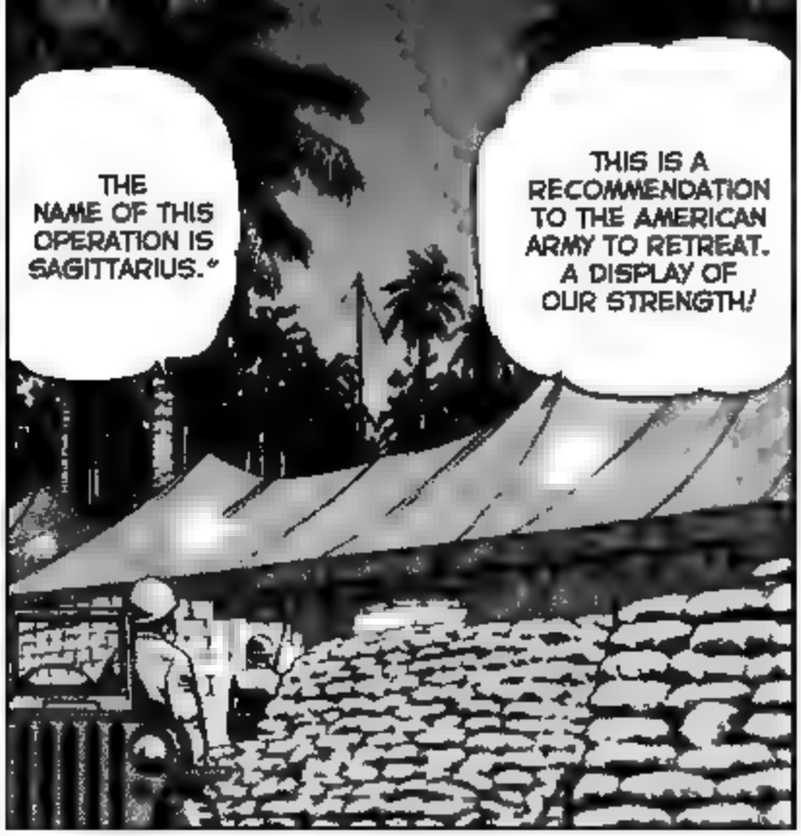
I'M LISTENING.

GENERAL, WE'VE INTERCEPTED A STRANGE MESSAGE!
FROM THE JAPANESE?

...
WE WILL ATTACK TODAY, AT 3 O'CLOCK SHARP, THE LIVING NECESSITIES THAT CAME WITH THE DROPPED OFF SUPPLIES.

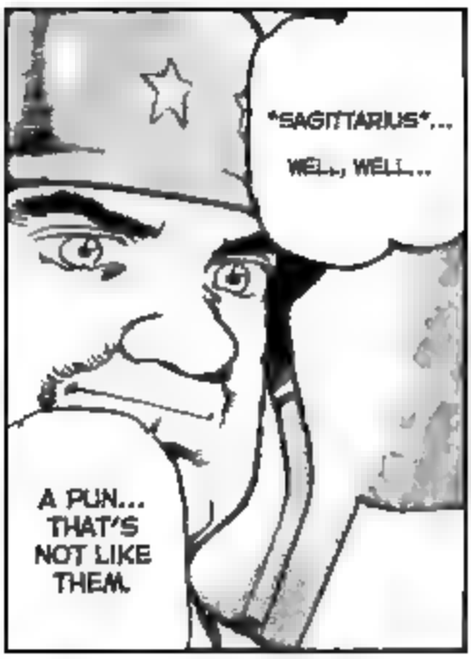
"WARNING ADDRESSED TO GENERAL VANDERGRIFT...!

BEFORE TAKING YOUR LIVES, WE CHOOSE TO TAKE YOUR BREAD AND YOUR PANCAKES.
WE WILL USE A MISSILE...A NEW WEAPON THAT SURPASSES CURRENT TECHNOLOGY BY FAR.


THE NAME OF THIS OPERATION IS SAGITTARIUS."
THIS IS A RECOMMENDATION TO THE AMERICAN ARMY TO RETREAT. A DISPLAY OF OUR STRENGTH!

THEY WANT US TO REPLACE OUR BREAD WITH RICE, IS THAT RIGHT?
HA! HA! HA!

THEY'RE TARGETING THE FLOUR?
IT'S A BLUFF. A STRATEGY TO CREATE CHAOS. WE'RE USED TO IT.


"SAGITTARIUS"... WEL.., WELL...
A PUN... THAT'S NOT LIKE THEM.

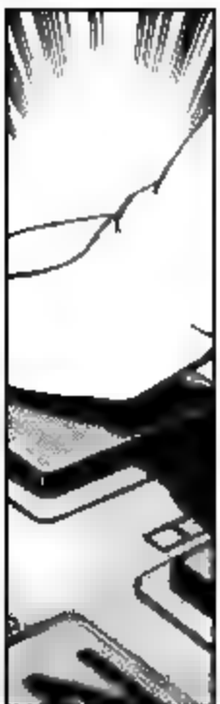
HOW DID THEY KNOW THAT MY TROOPS ARE STATIONED HERE?
THIS GROUND OPERATION HAS BEEN KEPT SECRET FROM ALL THE ALLIED ARMIES..

DATA CAPTURE COMPLETE!
NORTH OF GUADALCANAL, RED BEACH...
182
182

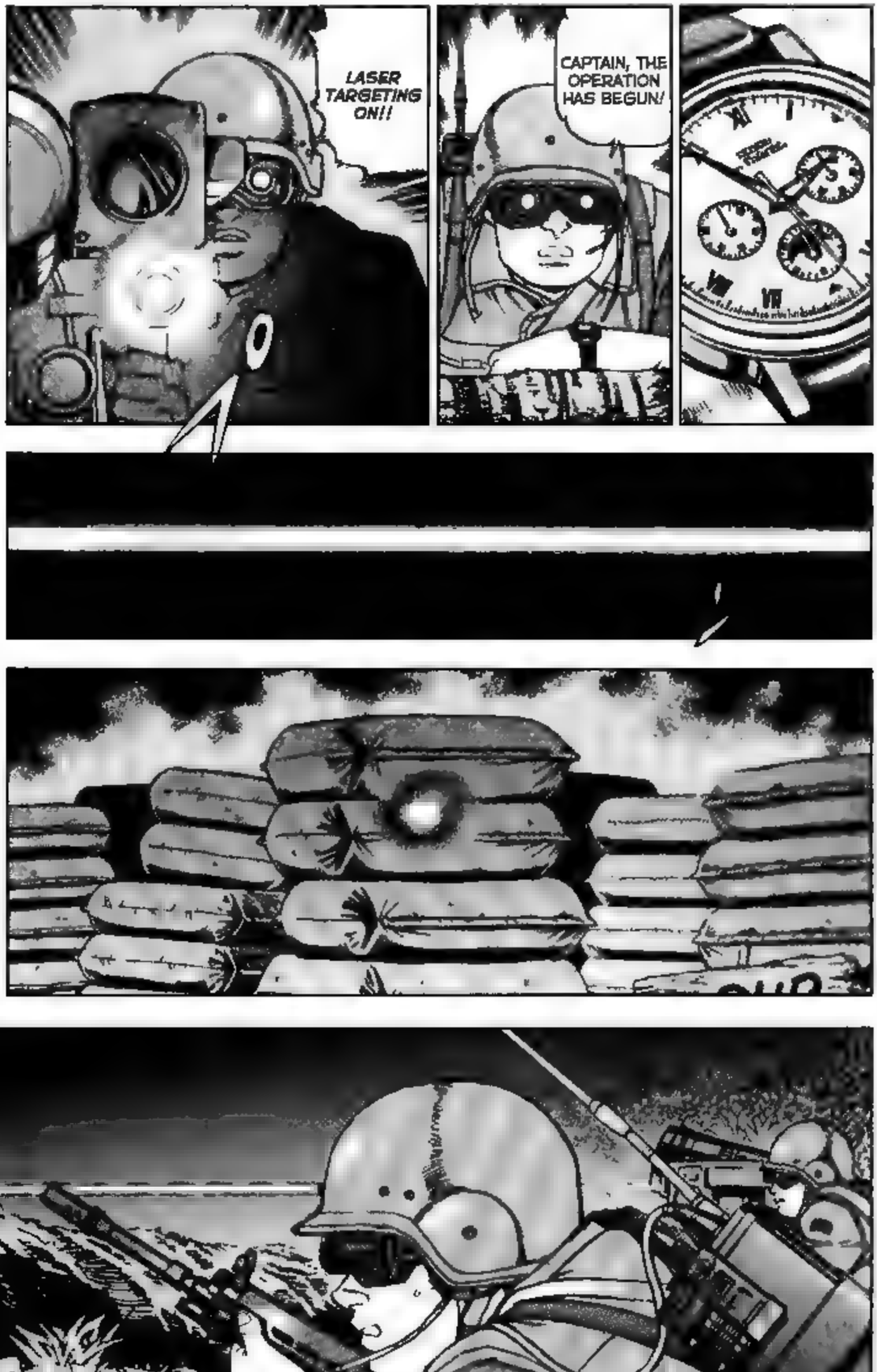
IN THE END, OUR PRESENCE HERE MIGHT NOT CHANGE MUCH..
THE BATTLE OF GUADALCANAL HAS BEEN PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH HISTORY.

...AND THE WORLD THAT IS ABOUT TO BE BORN..
...BETWEEN THE WORLD WE COME FROM..

...WILL INEVITABLY LEAD TO AN INTERACTION...
BUT THIS OFFENSIVE...

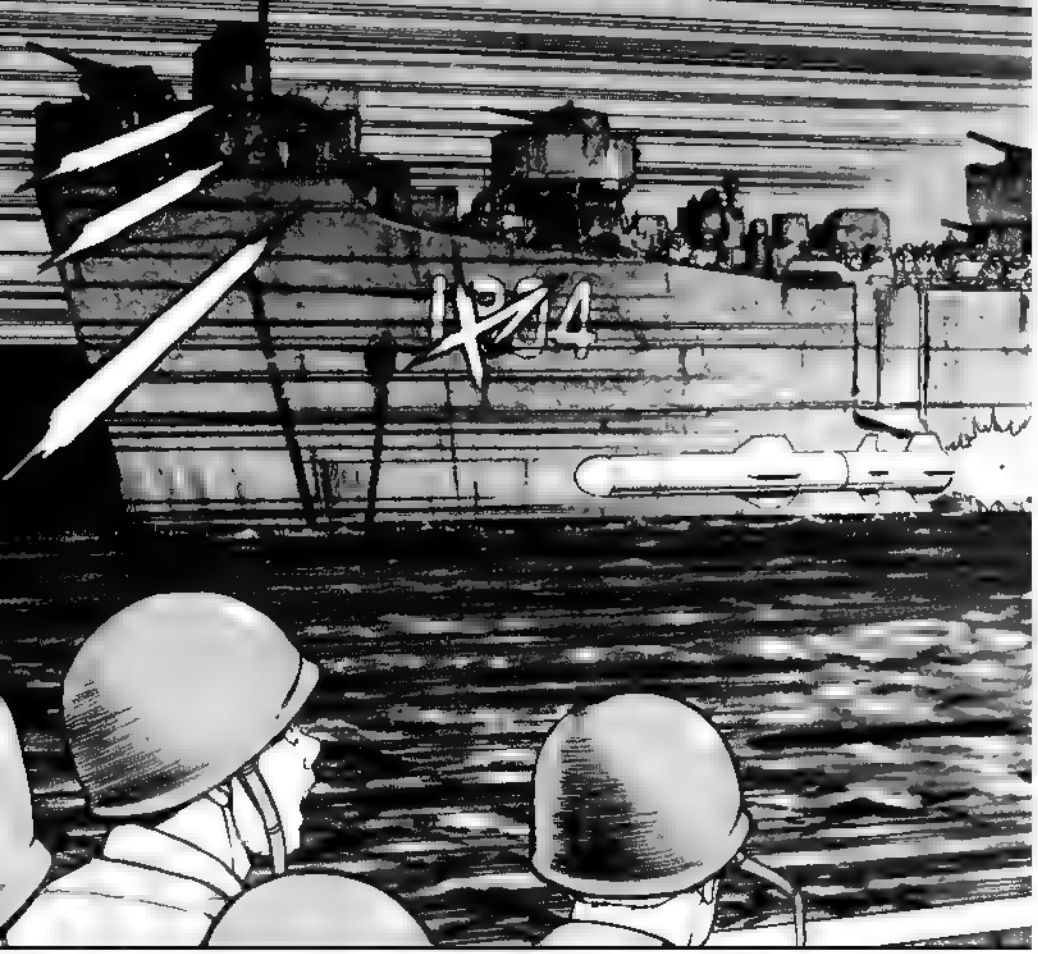


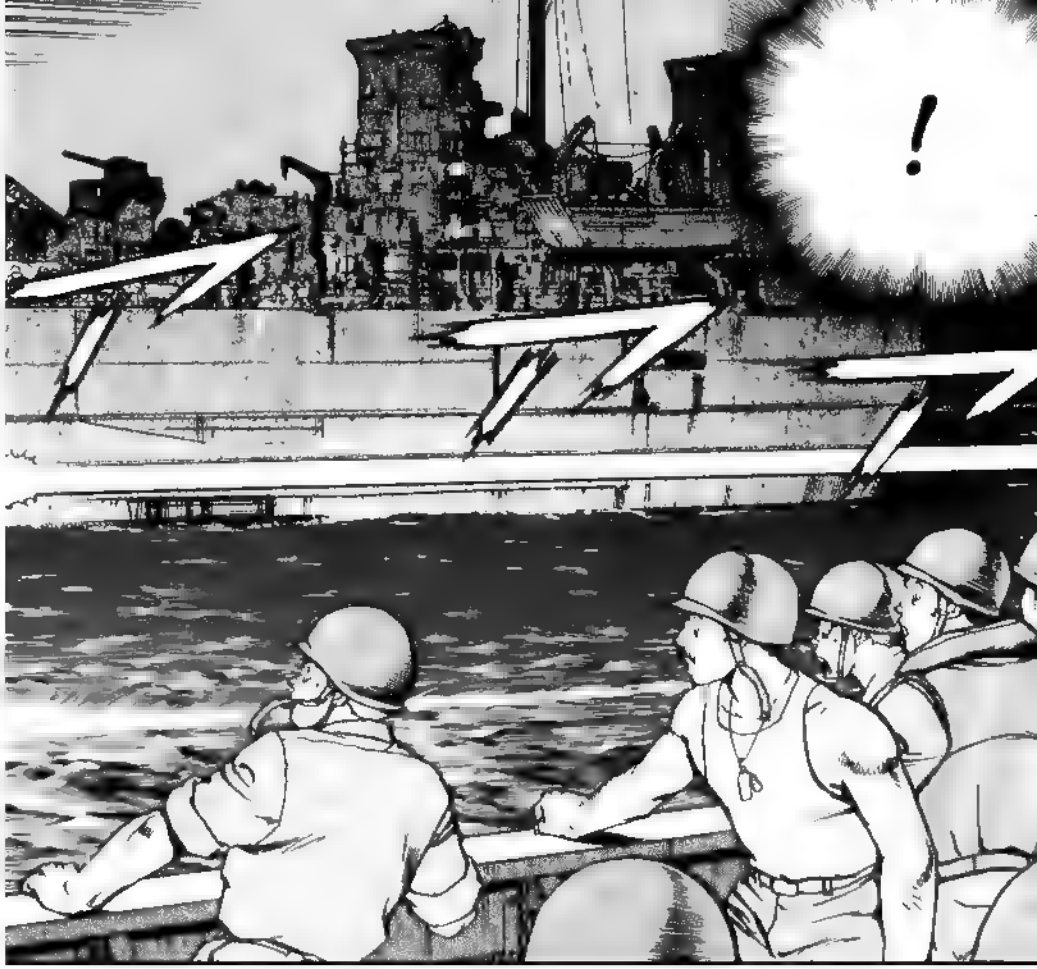
* VLS: VERTICAL LAUNCHING SYSTEM


LASER TARGETING ON!!
CAPTAIN, THE OPERATION HAS BEGUN!

DECLARE ALERT STATUS!!
CONTACT ALL PERSONNEL ON THE BEACH!
YES, SIR!!!
RIGHT AWAY!!
HURRY!!!
WITHDRAW EVERYONE WITHIN 600 METER OF THE SUPPLIES!

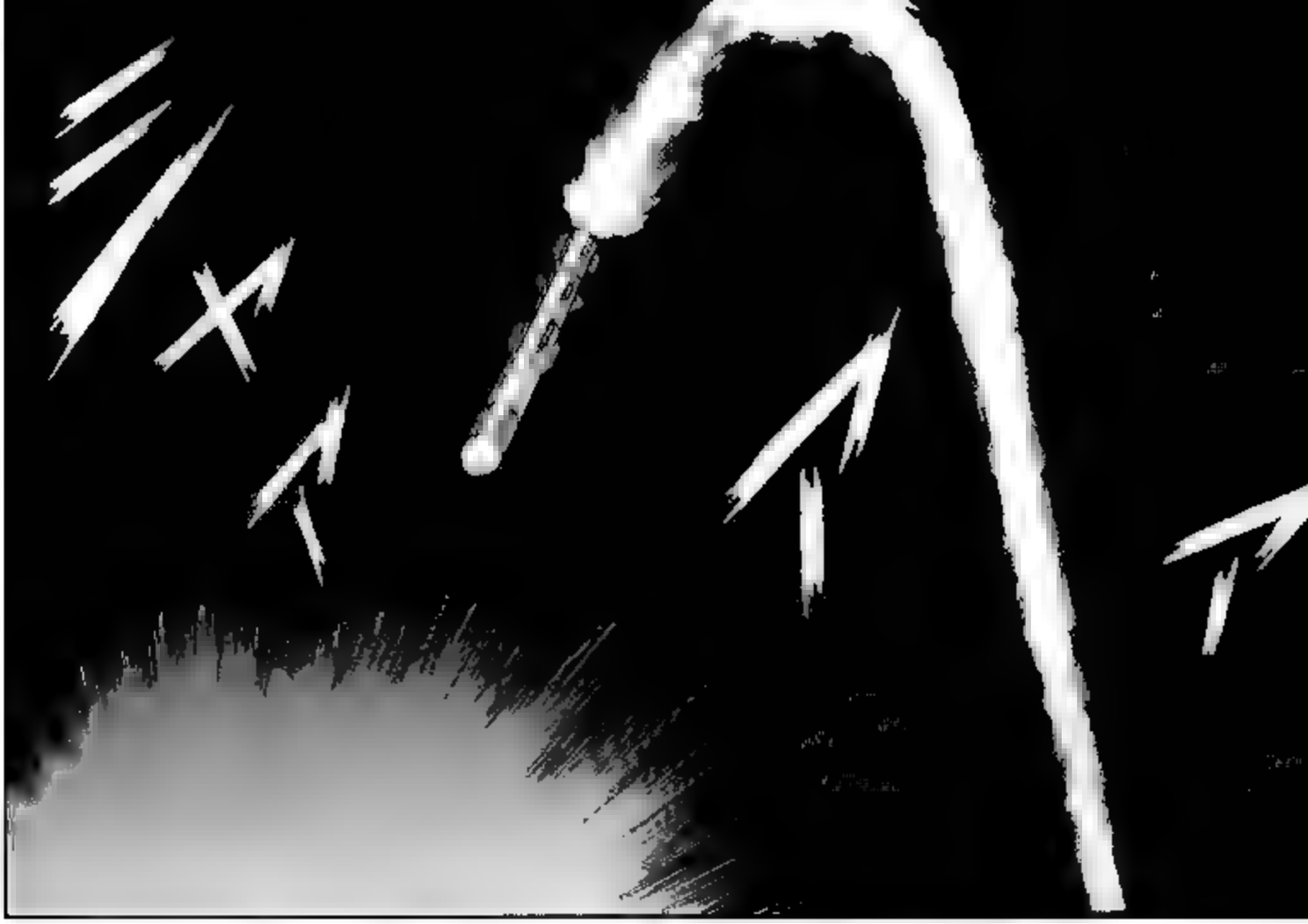
TWO MINUTES TO 3...
TO REMAIN VIGILANT OF ANY UNIDENTIFIED VESSELS APPROA-CHING!
CONTACT RADAR ROOMS IN ALL SHIPS!
YES, SIR!
LOOKS LIKE I WAS RIGHT.
I DON'T HEAR ANY EXPLOSIONS...
GENERAL!!!
OVER THERE!!
!?

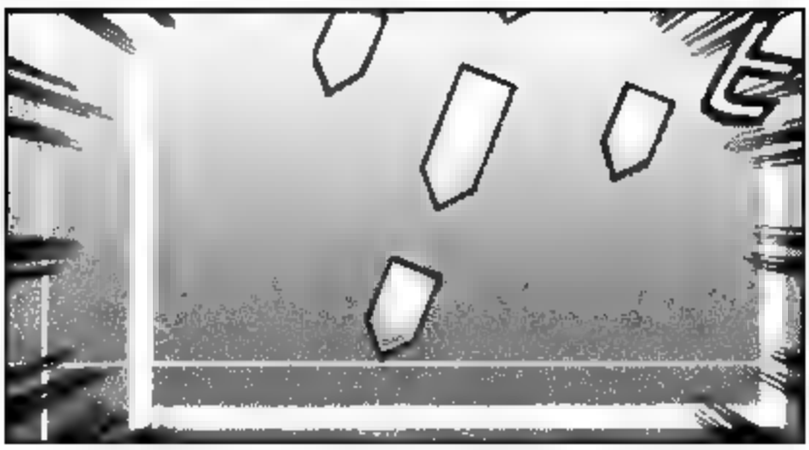



!

IT'S RISING!?
OOH!!!

WHAT IS THIS!?





* CRUISE MISSILE RADAR

WAKE 33 / END

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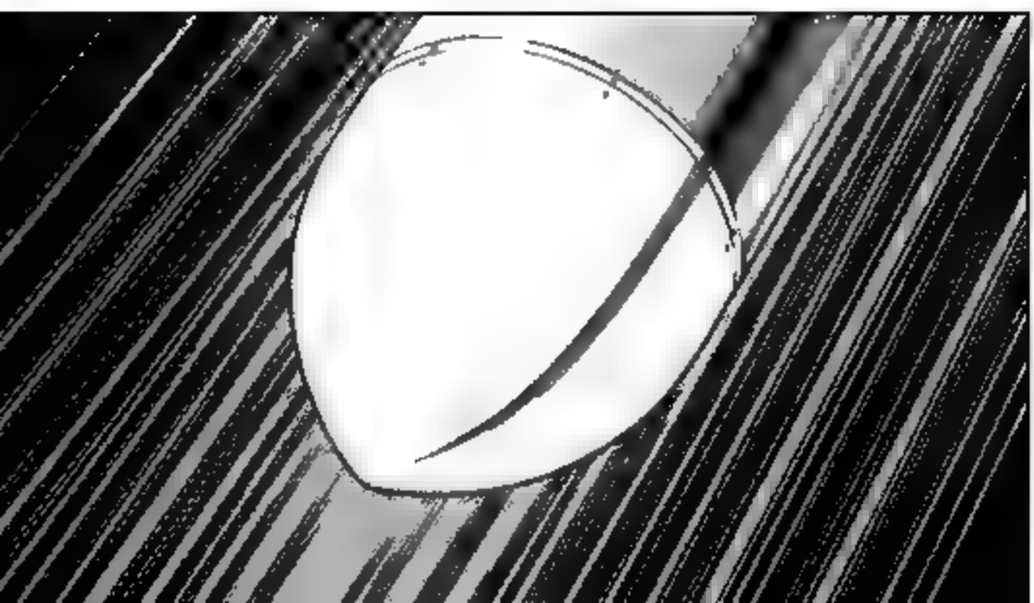
post on our forum or talk to staff on irc.

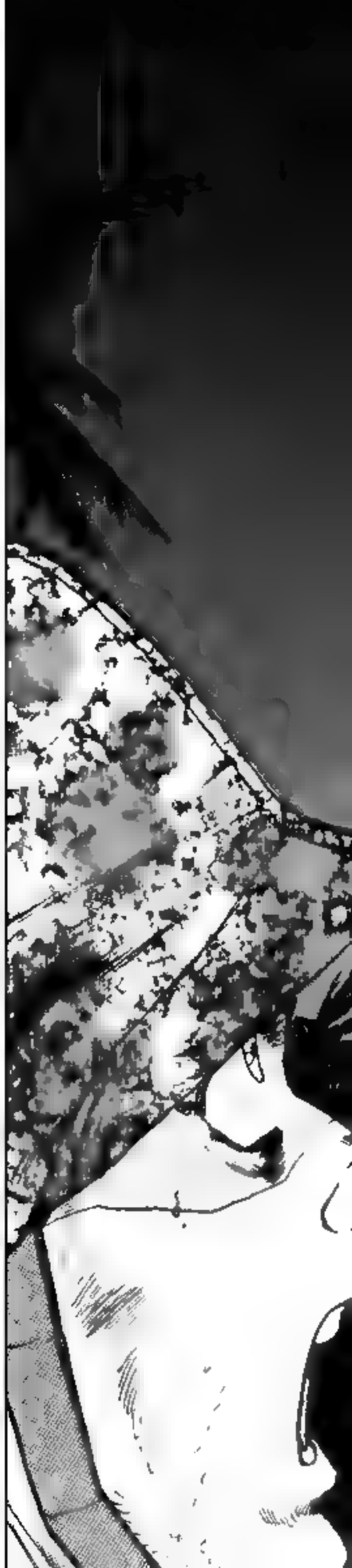
!!
OVER THERE...
LOOK!!!
TEN SECONDS BEFORE IMPACT.
IT'S COMING!!
OK... COME NOW, BE A GOOD BOY AND GO...
I'M GUIDING IT!
...RIGHT THERE!!!

WAKE 34:
THE ARROW
OF SAGITTARIUS

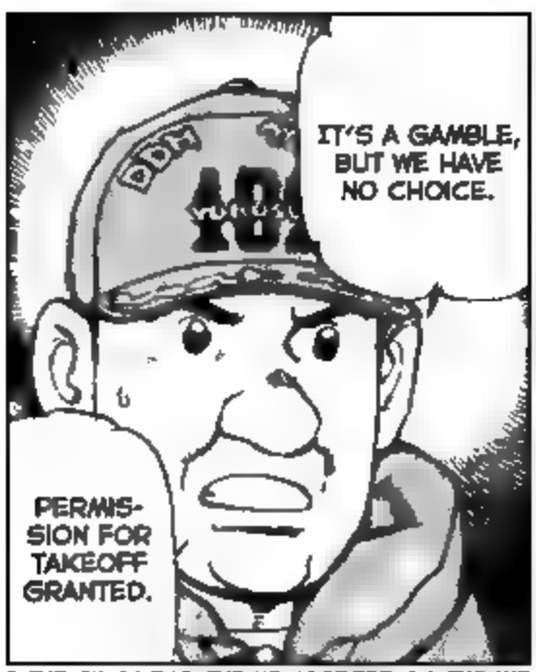
GENERAL! TO THE WEST!
WHAT!?

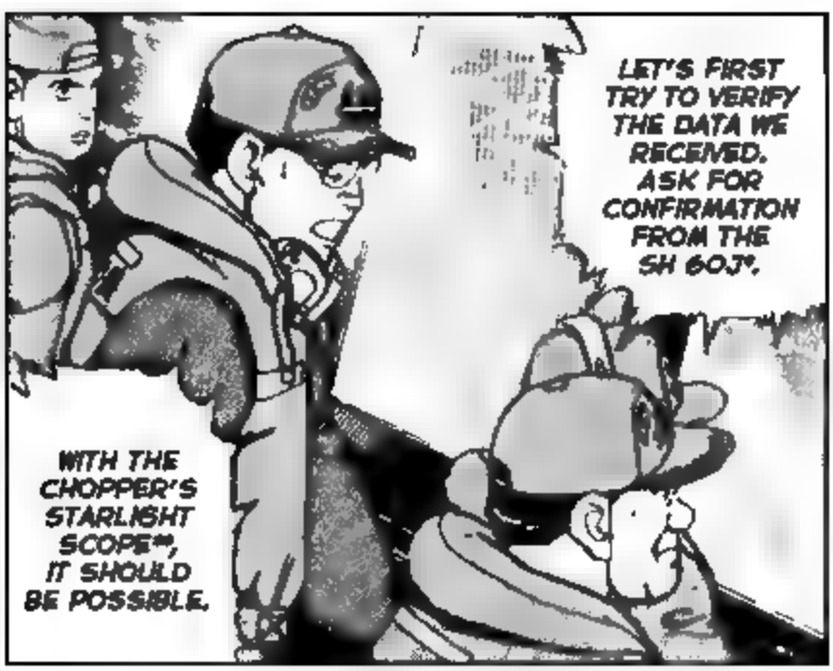
EVERYONE, TAKE COVER!
WATCH OUT!!!





DAMN IT!!!
THEY WERE BEHIND MALAITA AND THE RADAR DIDN'T DETECT THEM?
WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY DOING HERE...?
WE CAN SEE TWELVE SHIPS! IT'S A WHOLE FLEET!!
READINGS ON THE OPS 28! LATITUDE 7°40' SOUTH, LONGITUDE 158°10' EAST!
A FLEET? ARE YOU CERTAIN!?
THEY'RE ADVANCING SOUTH AT A SPEED OF 20 KNOTS!! THEY'RE APPROACHING FAST!!



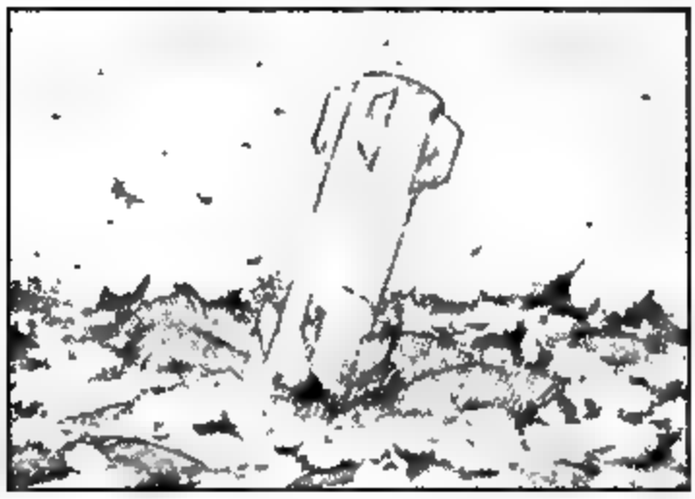

LET'S FIRST TRY TO VERIFY THE DATA WE RECEIVED. ASK FOR CONFIRMATION FROM THE SH 60J*.
WITH THE CHOPPER'S STARLIGHT SCOPE**, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE.

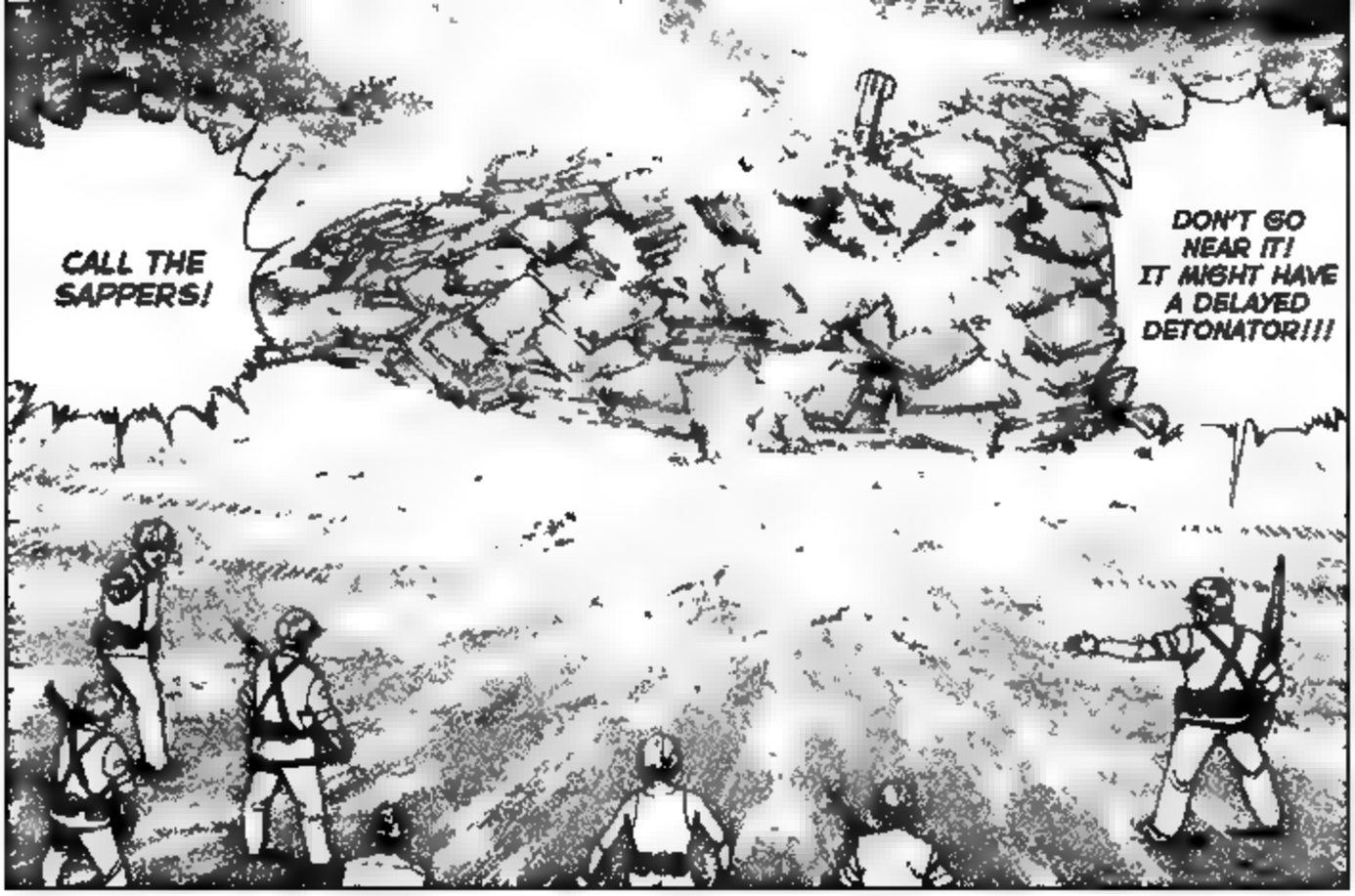
* THE SH 60J IS THE HELICOPTER ON THE MIRAI
** ULTRASENSITIVE CAMERA

ALERT STATUS!!!
PREPARE FOR IMMEDIATE TAKEOFF!!
IN TIMES OF WAR, THERE'S JUST NO TIME TO CATCH YOUR BREATH.
AND TO THINK WE'D JUST FINISHED PREPARING THE HELICOPTER...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE APPEARANCE OF A FLEET WAS NEVER MENTIONED IN HISTORY BOOKS...

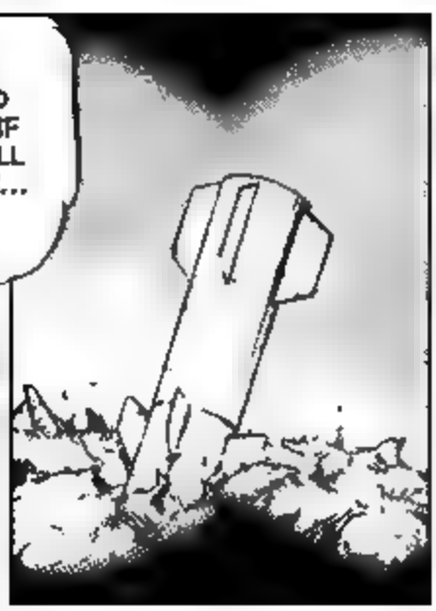
...?

NO EXPLOSION? A DUD?




CALL THE SAPPERS!
DON'T GO NEAR IT! IT MIGHT HAVE A DELAYED DETONATOR!!!

IT LANDED THERE AS IF IT HAD A WILL OF ITS OWN...

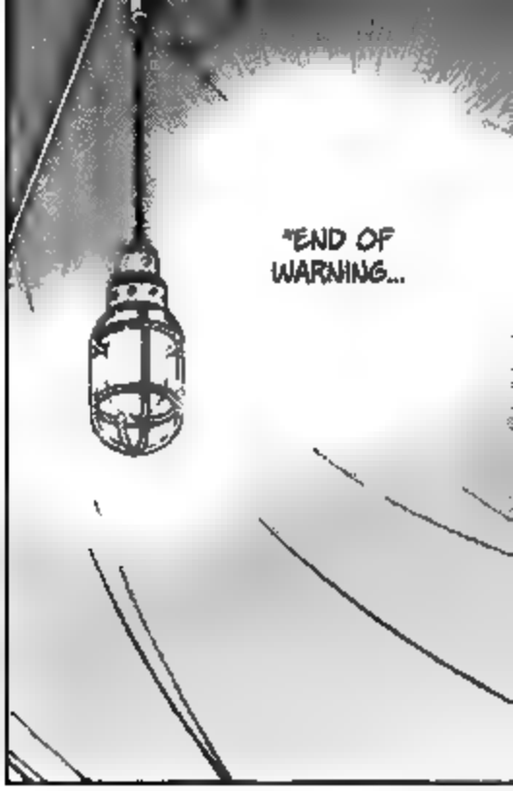


WHAT KIND OF ROCKET IS IT..?

GENERAL VANDERGRIFT!! ANOTHER MESSAGE FOR YOU!!

TORPEDOES WITH INTEGRATED SONAR FIRED BY AN UNKNOWN VESSEL...THEN, WOULDN'T THAT BE A FOO FIGHTER!?

REQUEST TO GENERAL VANDERGRIFT AND THE 11,000 MEN HE COMMANDS!


"END OF WARNING...

IF YOU REFUSE TO RETREAT AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE, ALL THE MEN CAMPED ON THE SHORES OF GUADALCANAL...

WE ORDER YOU TO ORGANIZE A QUICK RETREAT BY 4H30...

...BY THE ARROW OF SAGITTARIUS!
...WILL BE STRUCK...

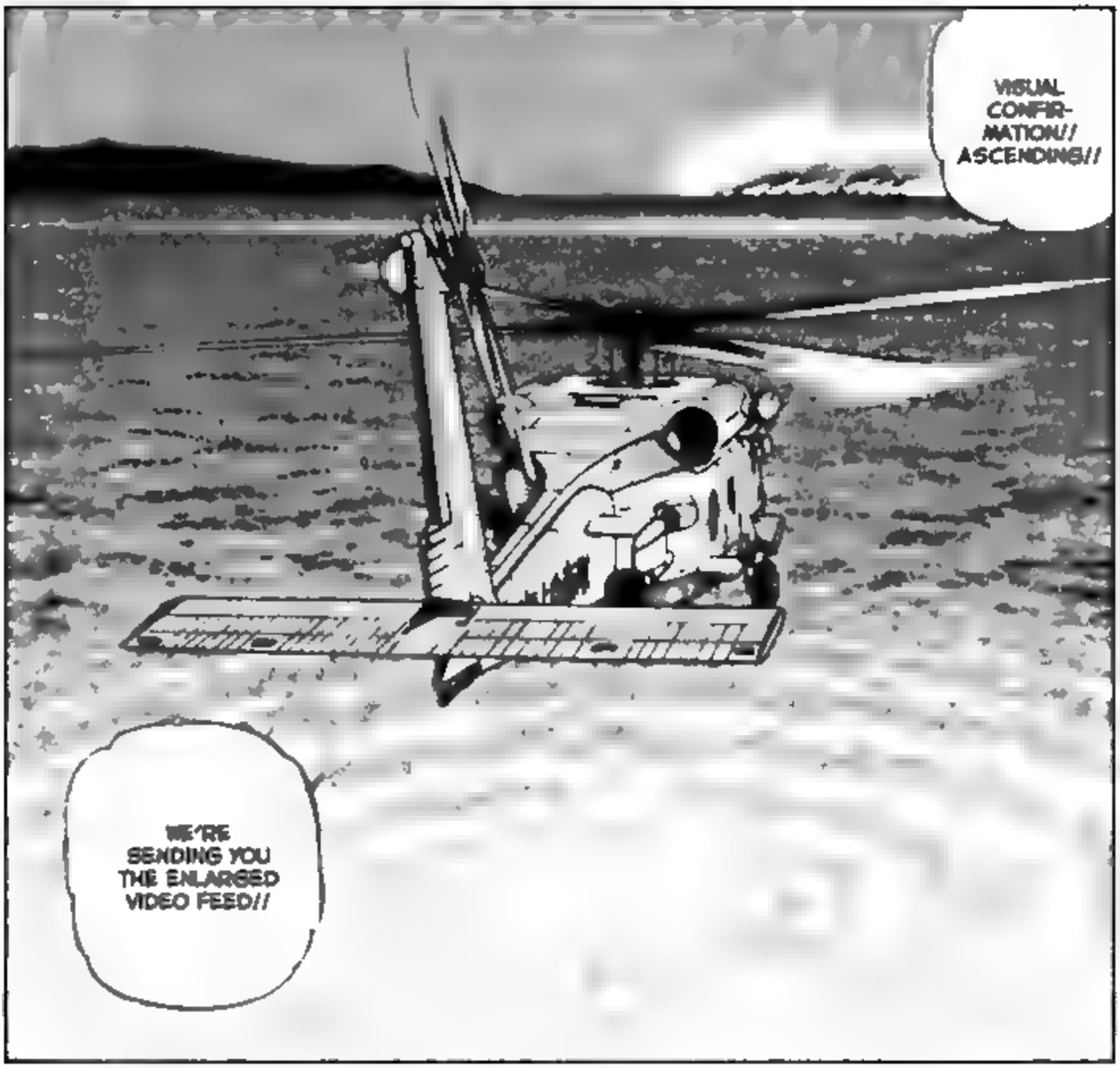
AS YOU MUST CERTAINLY HAVE UNDERSTOOD BY NOW, THIS GODLY ARROW NEVER MISSES ITS TARGET ONCE IT'S BEEN FIRED.
ITS WARHEAD CONTAINS 220 KILOGRAMS OF TNT..

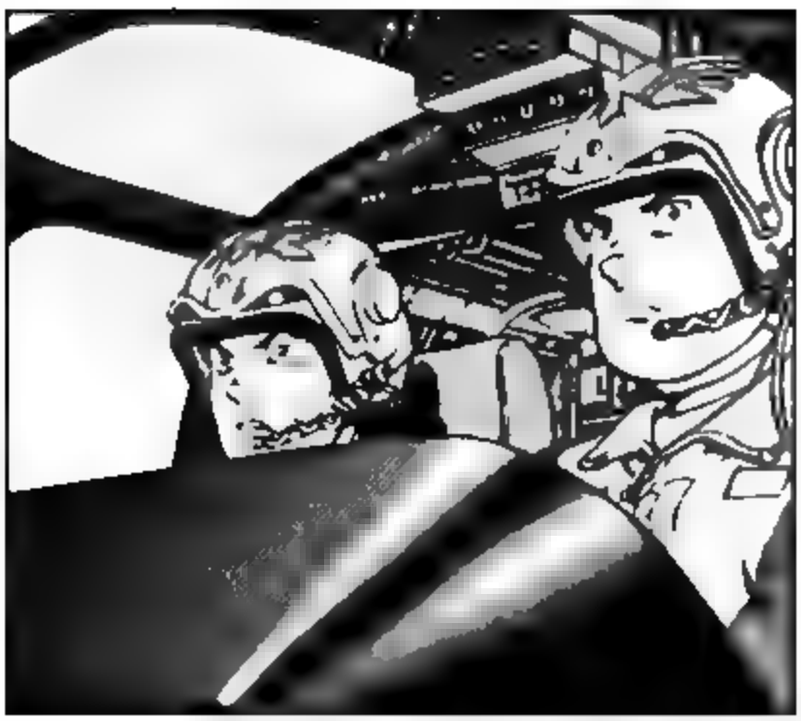
BUT THE ROCKET CAME FROM THE SEA!
EH!? THEN THEIR FLEET IS STILL HERE!?
I BET THE MOUNTAIN IS SWARMING WITH JAPS!
YES! THEY LET US LAND SO THEY COULD TRAP US!
DOES THE ENEMY KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT US OR WHAT!?
THINK WE'RE BEING WATCHED?

SHUT UP!

THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE REASON!
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT WAR HERE, NOT SOME SILLY GAME! WHY WOULD THEY WARN US?
THEY'RE TRYING TO WEAKEN US UP BY SPREADING PANIC!
WHY WOULD THEY NEED TO THREATEN US?
FORM PATROLS!
CONTACT ALL THE DIVISIONS STILL IN PLACE! ORDER THEM TO SEARCH THE PREMISES! WASTE NO RESOURCES IN FINDING THIS UNINDENTIFIED VESSEL!
AH...
YES, SIR!!!
...WHO GETS TO DECIDED WHETHER WE RETREAT FROM THIS ISLAND OR NOT!!
AND DON'T FORGET: THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS THE ONLY MAN...

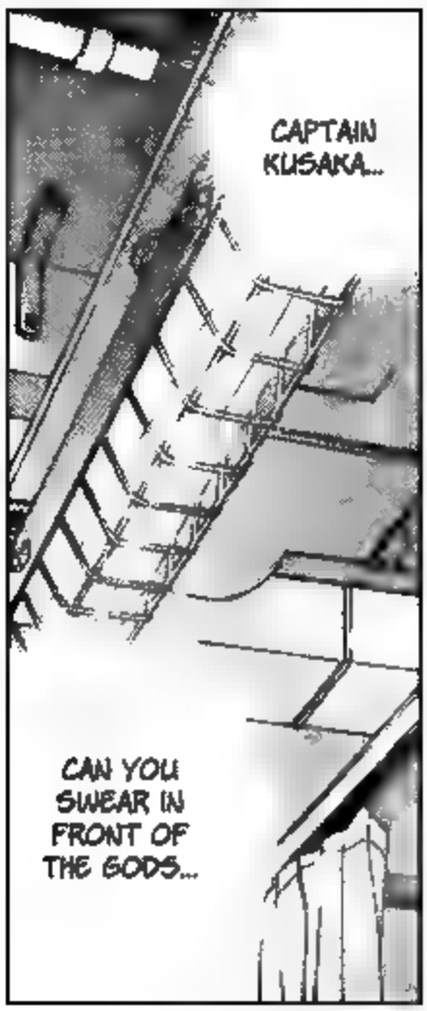
...THE JAPANESE ARMY!?
ARE YOU REALLY...
WHY GO THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE TO GIVE US A CHANCE!?
WHY AREN'T THEY ATTACKING US WHEN THEY CLEARLY HAVE THE ADVANTAGE!?
DISTANCE FROM CHOPPER: 20 KM.
CONSTANT VELOCITY, 82 DEGREES, APPROACHING!
SH 60J TO CIC!
SHIPS' PRESENCE HAS BEEN CONFIRMED!

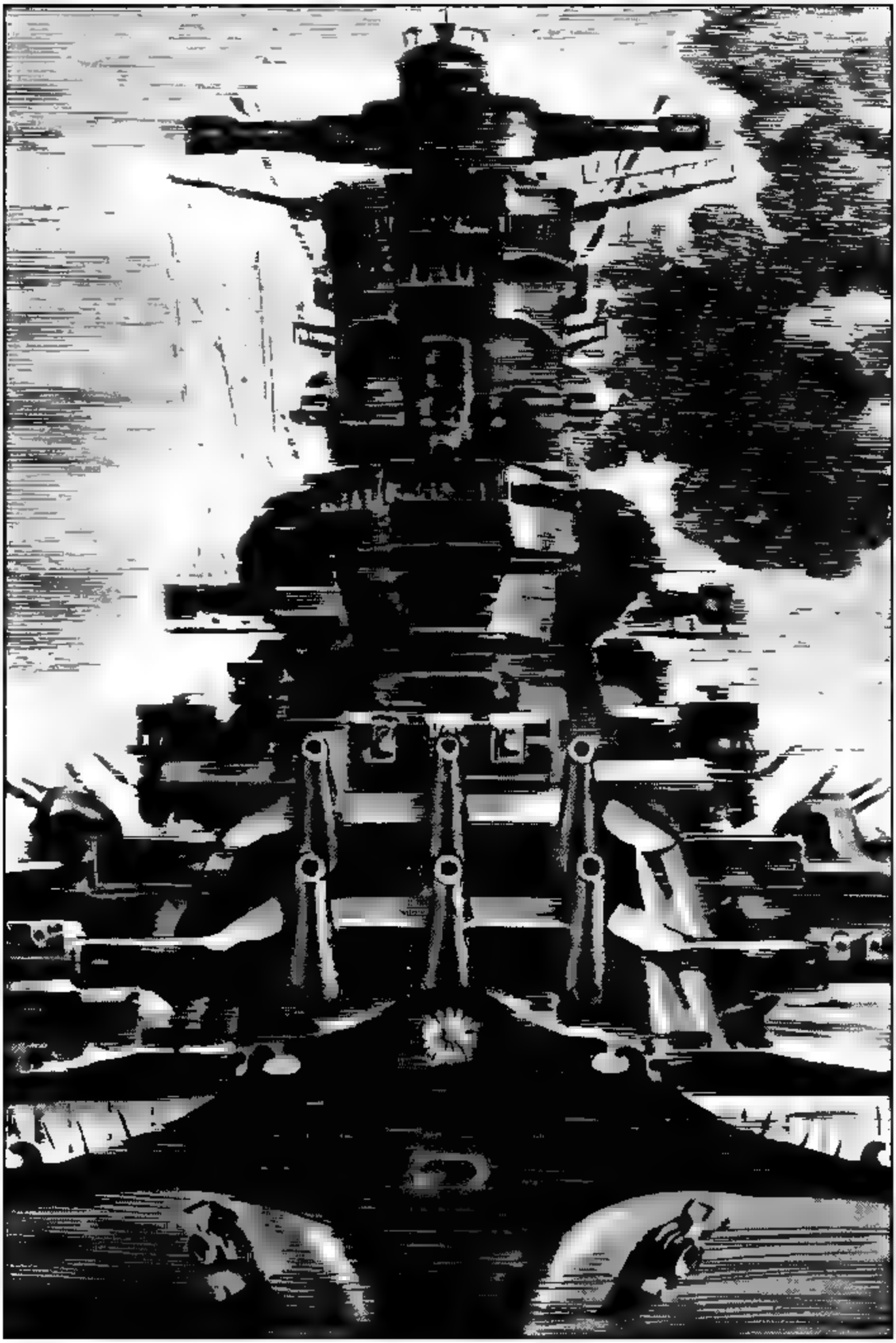

VISUAL CONFIR-MATION// ASCENDING//
WE'RE SENDING YOU THE ENLARGED VIDEO FEED//



!!
SYNCHRO-
NIZING
IMAGE!
BUT...
HOW!?

...IN YOUR
ACTIONS...?
...THAT THERE
IS NO ERROR...


CAPTAIN
KUSAKA...
CAN YOU
SWEAR IN
FRONT OF
THE GODS...



ISN'T THE YAMATO SUPPOSED TO BE AT THE TRUK ISLANDS!?
THE YAMATO!!!
INCOMING MESSAGE!!!
WHAT!?
COMING FROM THE APPROACHING FLEET AND ADDRESSED TO US!
...WILL UNLEASH ITS FULL POWER AND OPEN FIRE ON THE NORTHERN SHORES OF GUADALCANAL...
*STANDING BENEATH THE BANNER OF ADMIRAL YAMAMOTO, A FLEET OF 12 BATTLESHIPS, AT 4:30...

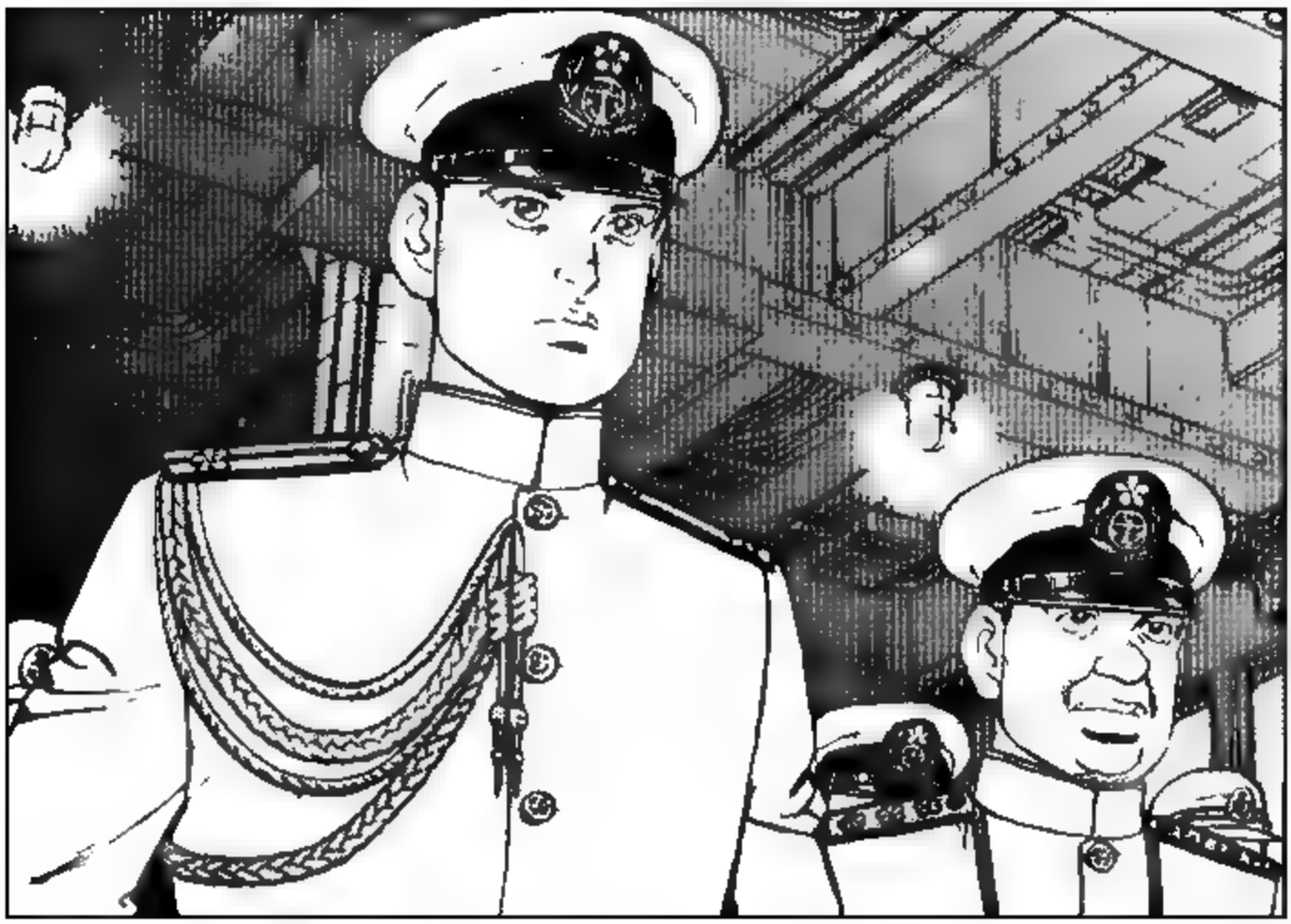
...THE 1ST US MARINE DIVISION!
WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF WIPING OUT...

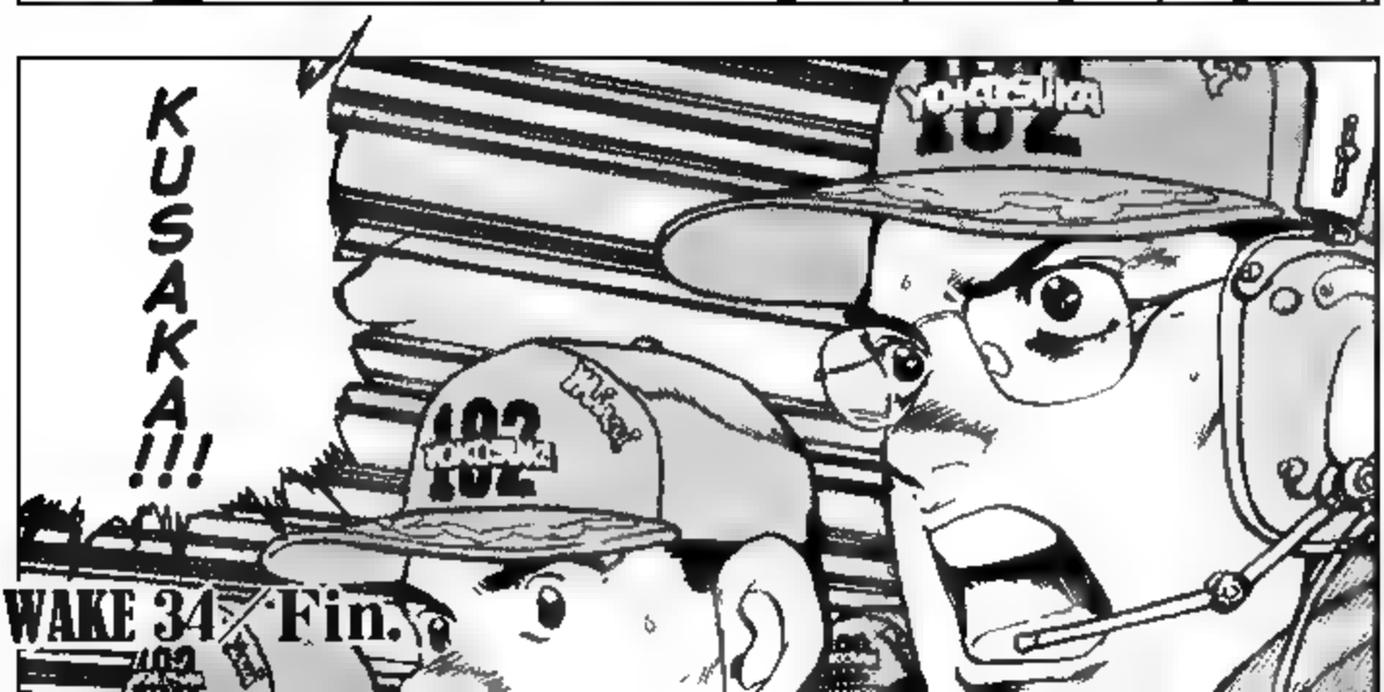
...TO MOVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TOWARDS THE SOUTH OF THE ISLAND...

WE ADVISE THE MIRAI CREW MEMBERS WHO ARE ON THE ISLAND...

...OR TO LEAVE THE ISLAND ALTOGETHER!

TO:
JSDF -
NAVAL DEFENCE
FORCE - MIRAI.
FROM:
TAKUMI KUSAKA.




KUSAKA!!!
YOKOSUKA
102
YOKOSUKA
102

WAKE 34 Fin.

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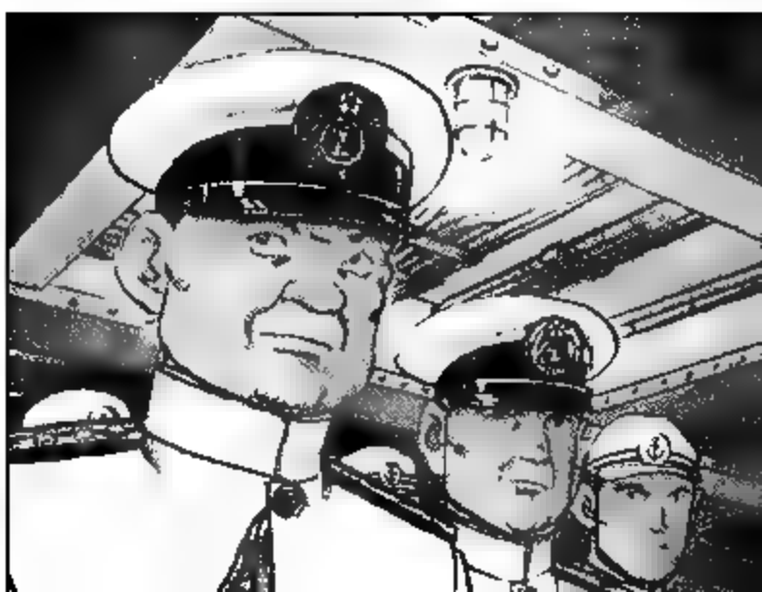
WAKE 35: READING YOU LOUD AND CLEAR

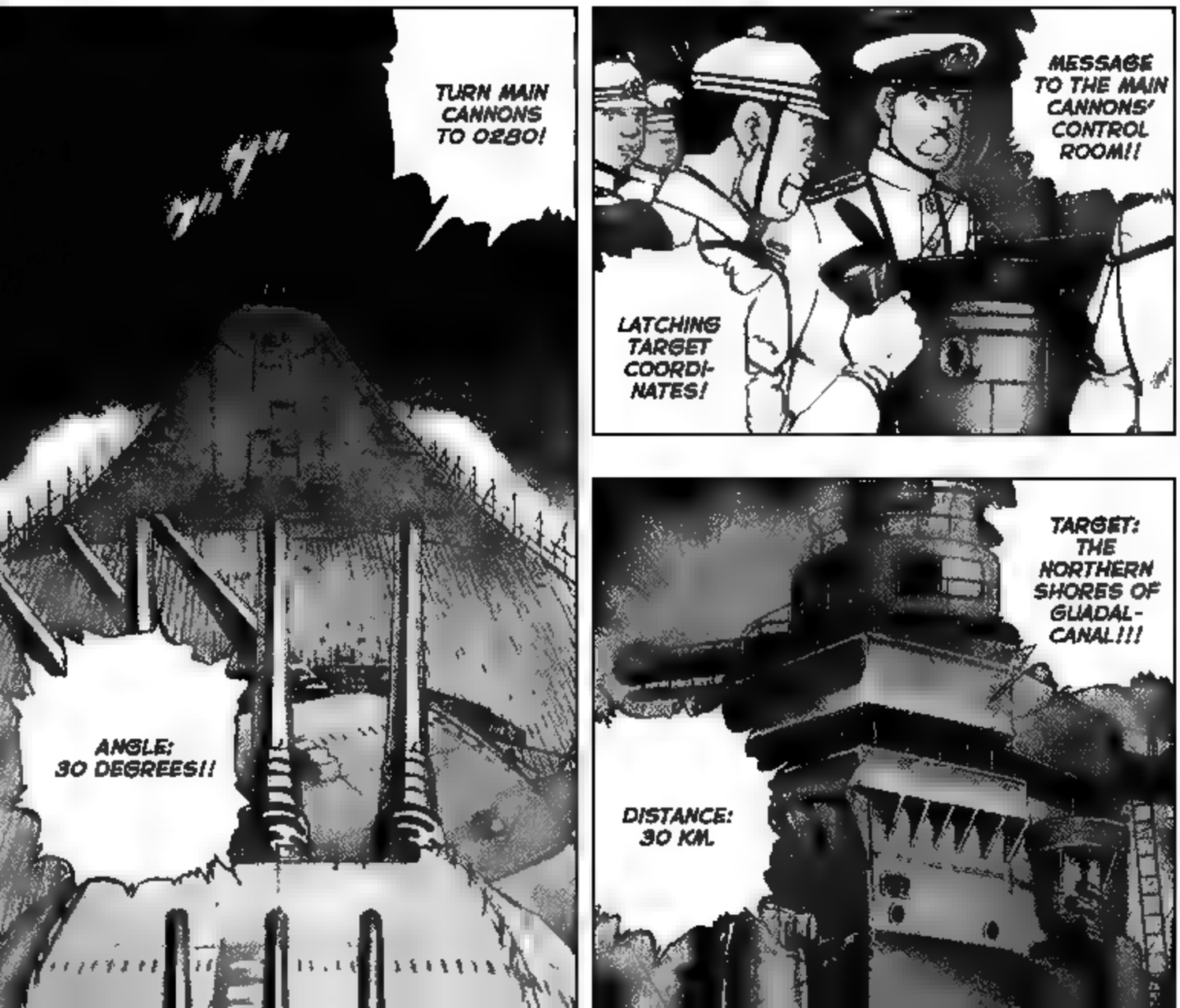
COMMU-
NICATIONS
REPORT!
AT 3:50...
THE MIRAI
STILL HASN'T
RESPONDED
TO OUR
MESSAGE.

WELL,
CAPTAIN
KUSAKA?
IF WE DON'T
GET AN ANSWER,
SHOULD WE
OPEN FIRE AS
PLANNED?

NO...



VERY WELL...
ORDER ALL SHIPS TO PREPARE THE OFFENSIVE...
THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT...
WE WILL GET AN ANSWER.
ALL SHIPS, PREPARE TO OPEN FIRE!!


TURN MAIN CANNONS TO 0280!
ANGLE: 30 DEGREES!!
MESSAGE TO THE MAIN CANNONS' CONTROL ROOM!!
LATCHING TARGET COORDI-NATES!
TARGET: THE NORTHERN SHORES OF GUADAL-CANAL!!!
DISTANCE: 30 KM.

ZENITH
IF ONLY THEY COULD JUST LEAVE LIKE THAT...
...THERE WOULDN'T BE A SINGLE CASUALTY..
IT WOULD SEEM THE AMERICANS ARE STARTING TO MOVE...

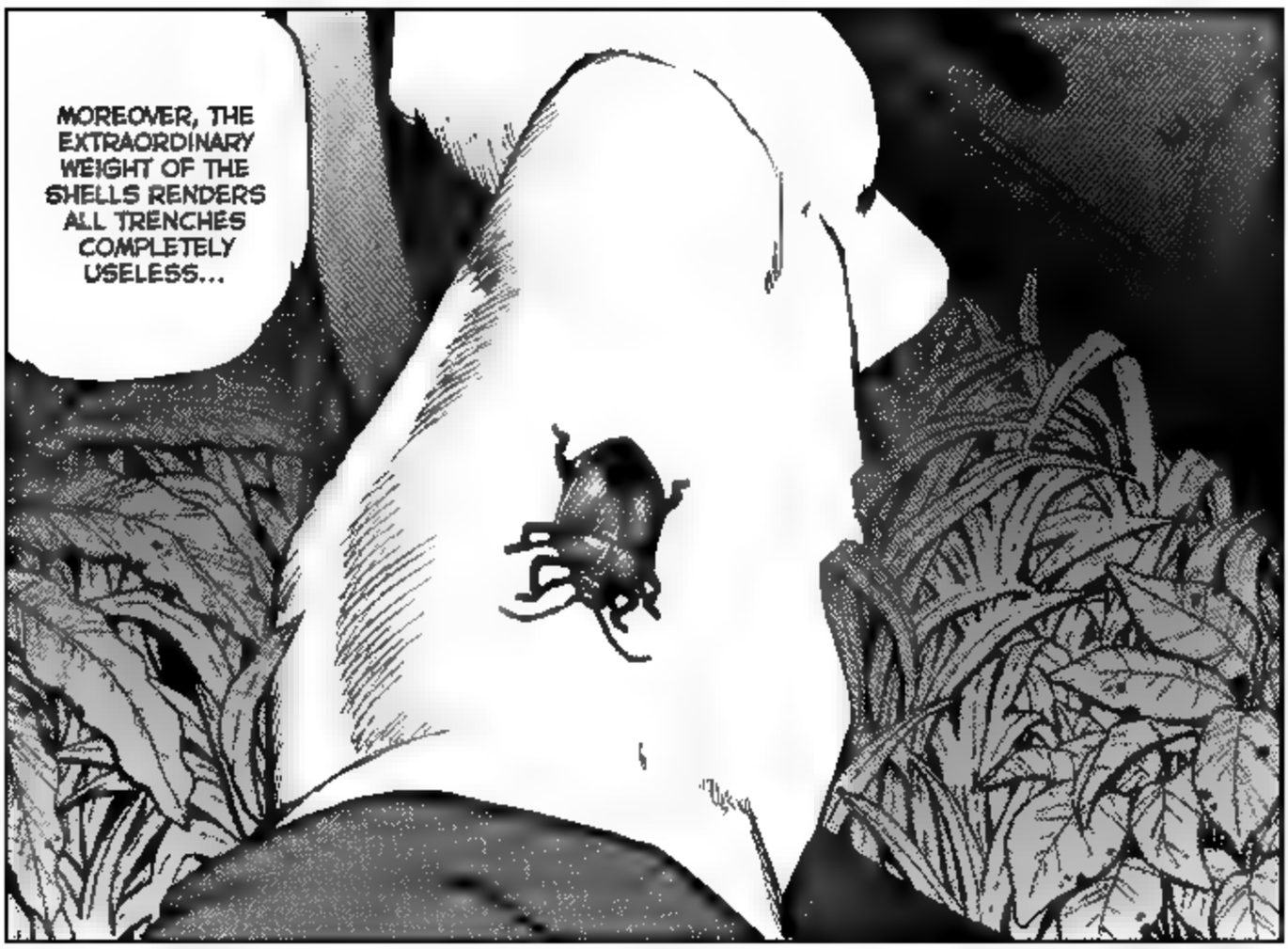
WHAT!? THE YAMATO!?
YOSUKE! THERE'S A MORE PRESSING MATTER AT HAND! SOMETHING UNEXPECTED HAS HAPPENED!
KADOMATSU TO CIC!
THE OPERATION IS PROCEEDING AS PLANNED.
IT'S CURRENTLY LEADING A FLEET OF 12 SHIPS, ITSELF INCLUDED. HEADING TO 30 KM NORT-EAST OF RED BEACH.
ARE YOU KIDDING ME!? THE YAMATO SHOULD BE AT TRUK...
AT 4:30, THEY WILL OPEN FIRE ON THE ENTIRE NORTHERN COAST OF GUADALCANAL...
THEY SENT US A WARNING AT 3:50.
WHAT!? A MESSAGE FROM THE YAMATO!?

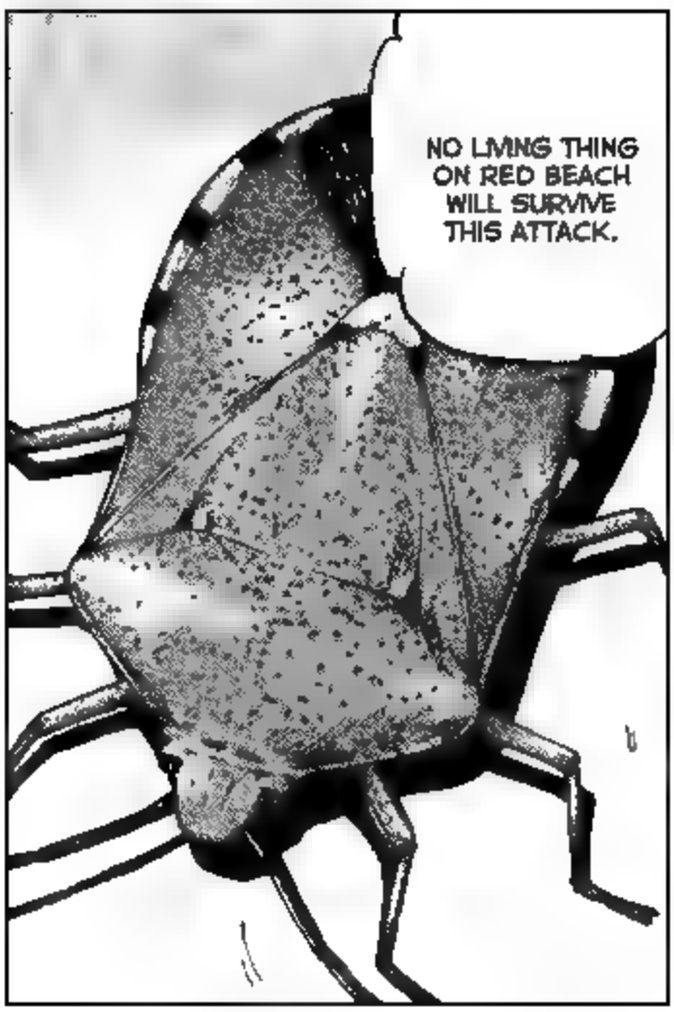
...WITH THE INTENTION OF EXTERMINATING ALL ENEMY FORCES!
THE MESSAGE WAS SENT BY...

TAKUMI
KUSAKA!!!

CAPT...
SHHH!!!
YOU BASTARD...
I WAS DOING SO WELL WITHOUT HEARING ANY NEWS ABOUT YOU.

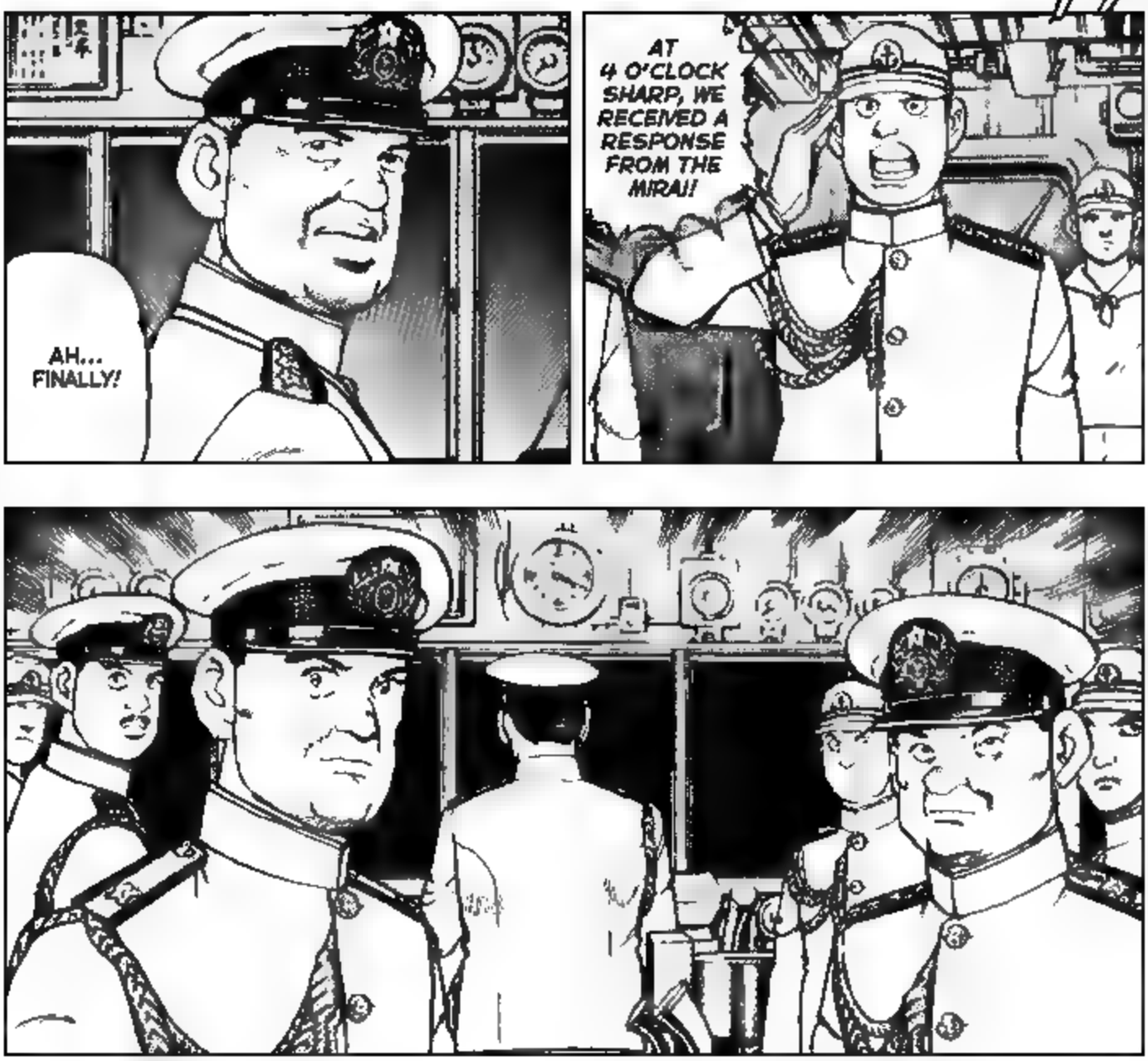
THE FIRST-GENERATION ZERO FIGHTERS, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OLD FLEET, COULD CARRY...
...UP TO 800 KG OF BOMBS. THE THIRD-GENERATION PRESENTLY ON THE THE YAMATO CAN CARRY 1,360.
THE YAMATO'S 460MM CANNONS ARE AN UNMATCHED DESTRUCTIVE FORCE FOR THIS TIME PERIOD...
FIRING ALL 900 SHOTS WOULD BE ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO AN ATTACK BY 1,530 FIRST-GENERATION ZERO FIGHTERS.

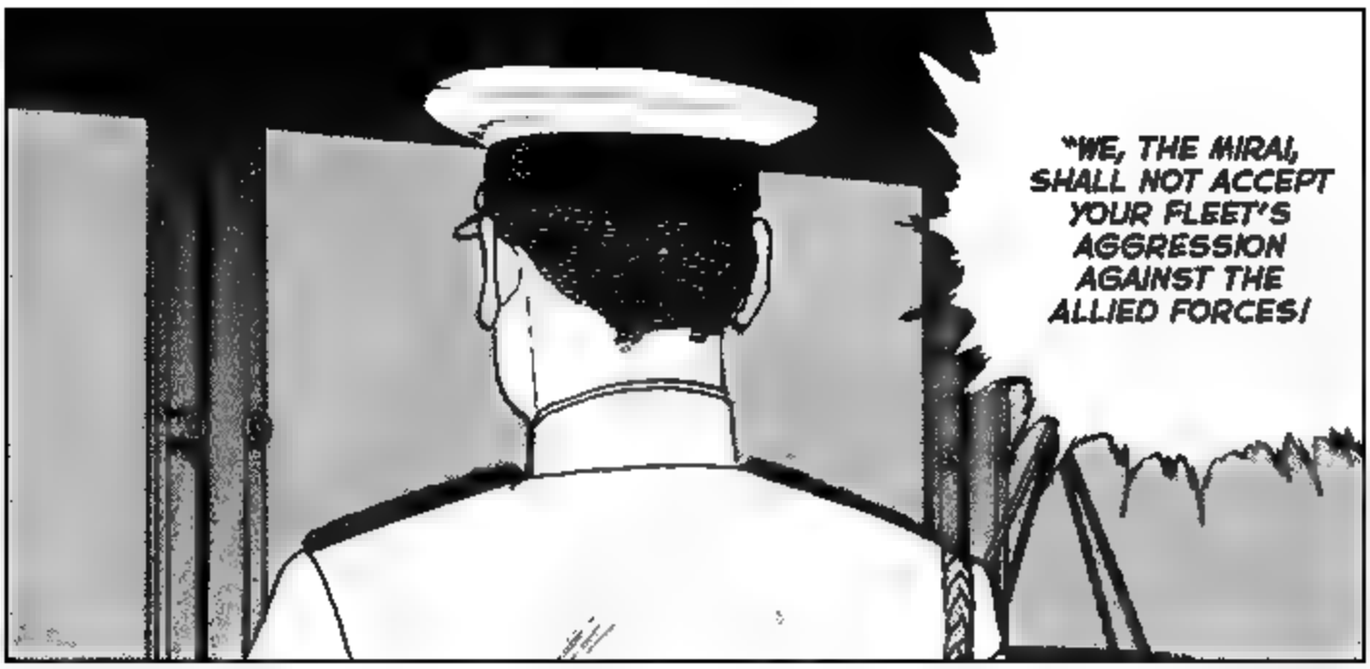

MOREOVER, THE EXTRAORDINARY WEIGHT OF THE SHELLS RENDERS ALL TRENCHES COMPLETELY USELESS...


NO LIVING THING ON RED BEACH WILL SURVIVE THIS ATTACK.

IT'S AN ACT OF SAVAGE SLAUGHTER!
SURE, THESE ARE TIMES OF WAR, BUT SUCH AN ATTACK IS ONLY POSSIBLE IF YOU ARE SURE THERE WON'T BE ANY RETALIATION.
LET ME SPEAK TO KIKUCHI AND CAPTAIN UMEZU!
KODAMATSU SPEAKING.
CIC...

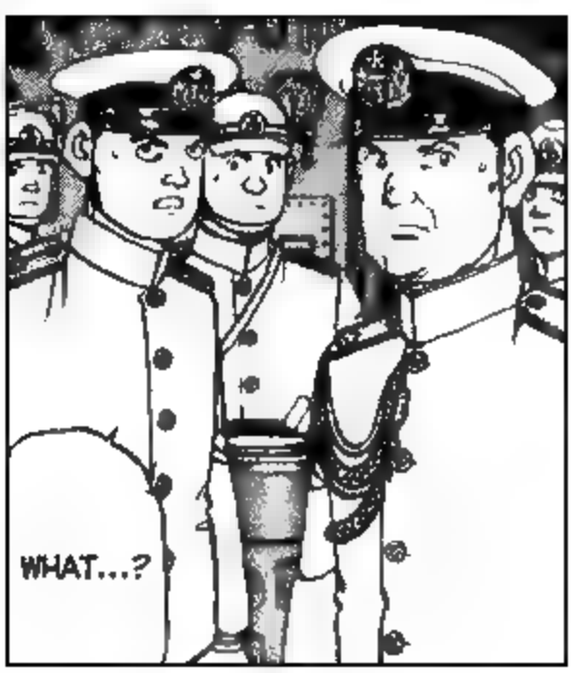
REPORTING!!!


AH... FINALLY!
AT 4 O'CLOCK SHARP, WE RECEIVED A RESPONSE FROM THE MIRAI!


"WE, THE MIRAI, SHALL NOT ACCEPT YOUR FLEET'S AGGRESSION AGAINST THE ALLIED FORCES!

...HAVE NO INTENTION OF WITHDRAWING!!"
COMMANDER KADOMATSU AND THE THREE MEN UNDER HIS COMMAND CURRENTLY ON GUADALCANAL...

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

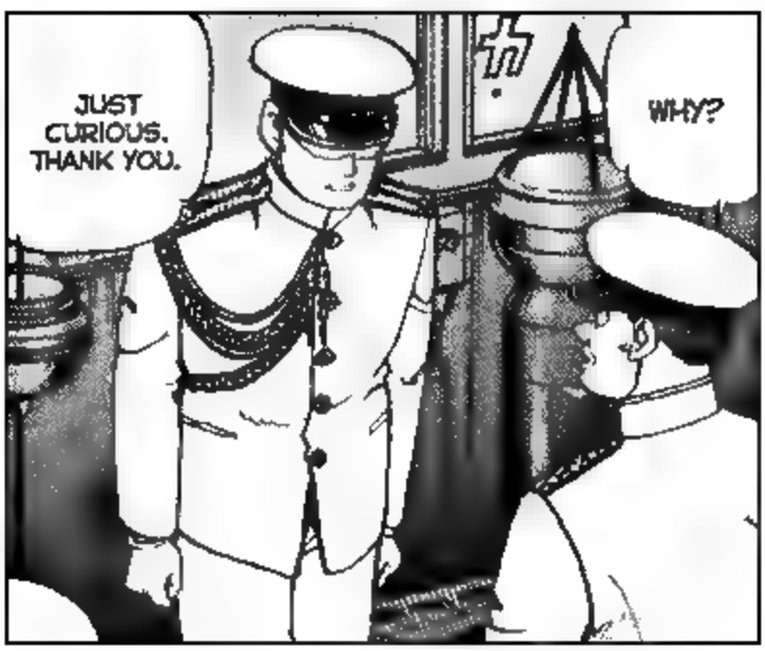

WHAT...?

ADMIRAL UGAKI! ONLY 10 MINUTES LEFT BEFORE THE ATTACK! WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

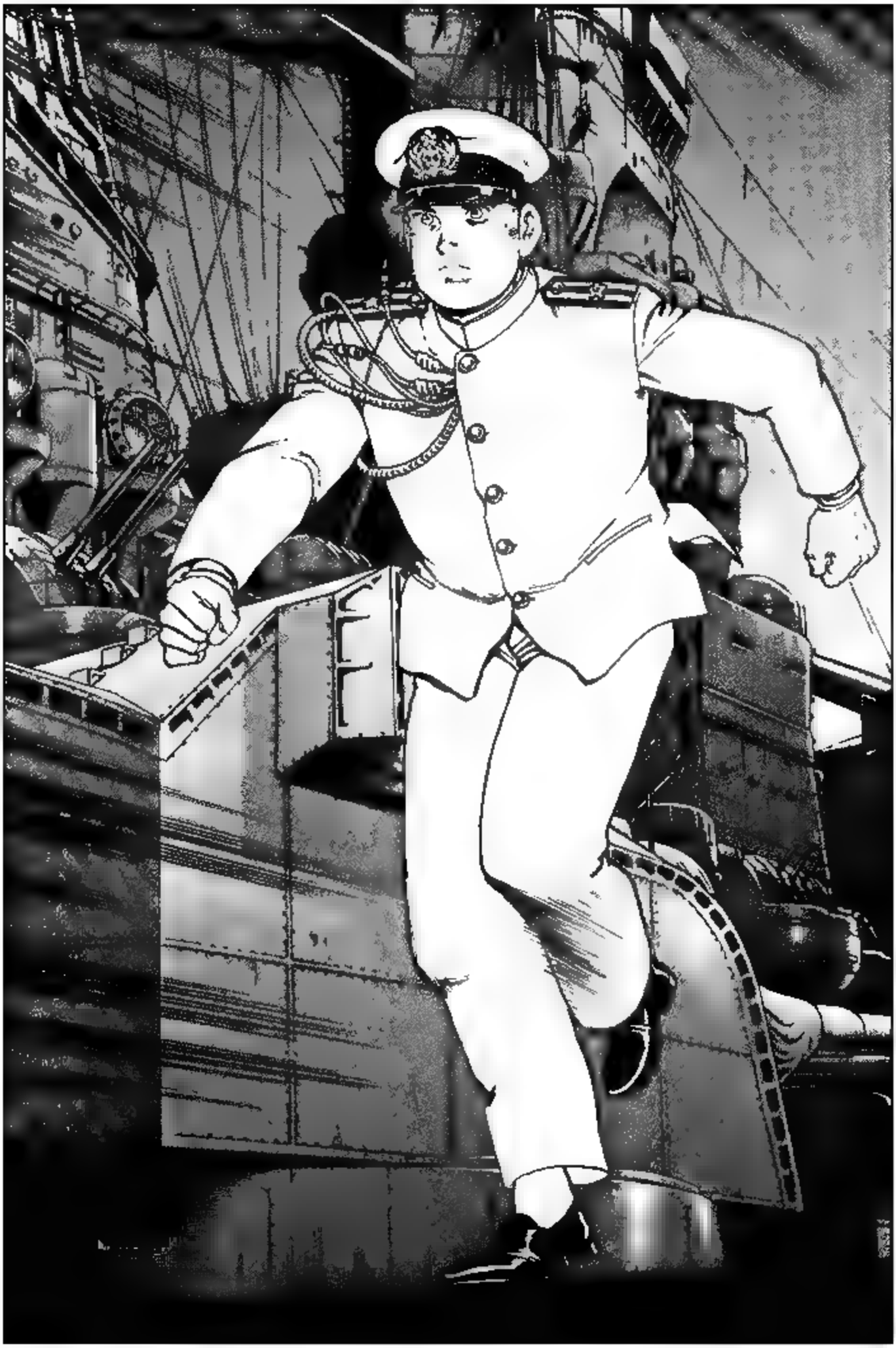
IF YOU WALK NORMALLY, ABOUT 10 MINUTES.
IF YOU RUN, MAYBE 4-5 MINUTES.

DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG IT TAKES TO GET FROM HERE TO THE AFT DECK?

MAJOR KURO-SHIMA...
YES?


JUST CURIOUS. THANK YOU.
WHY?

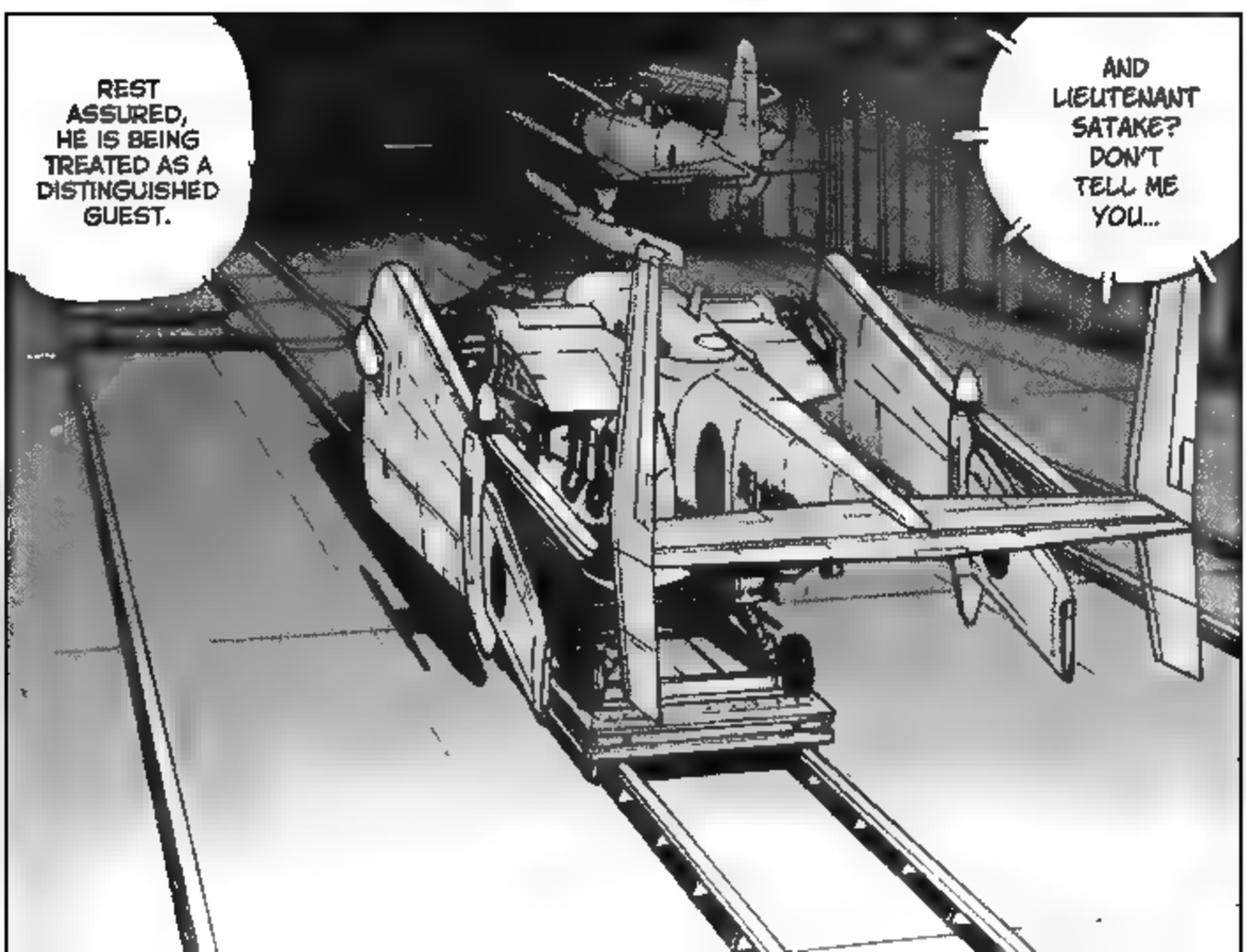
JC

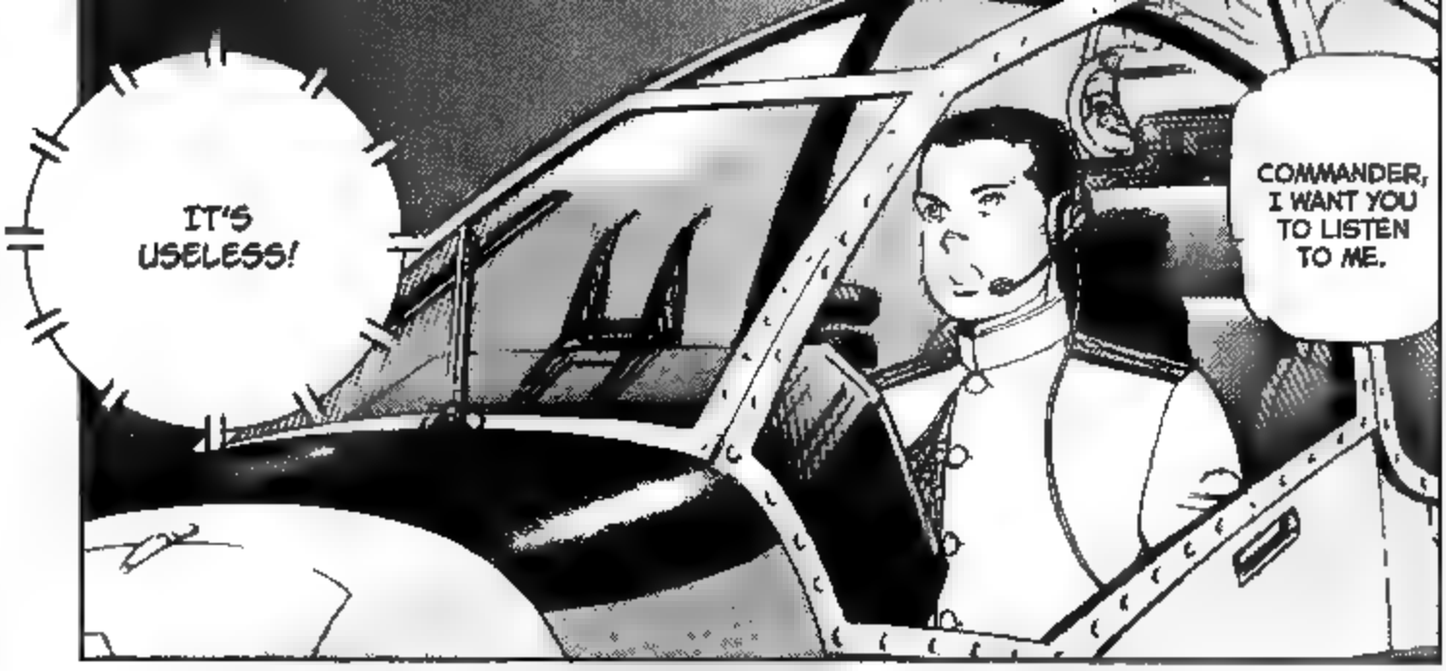


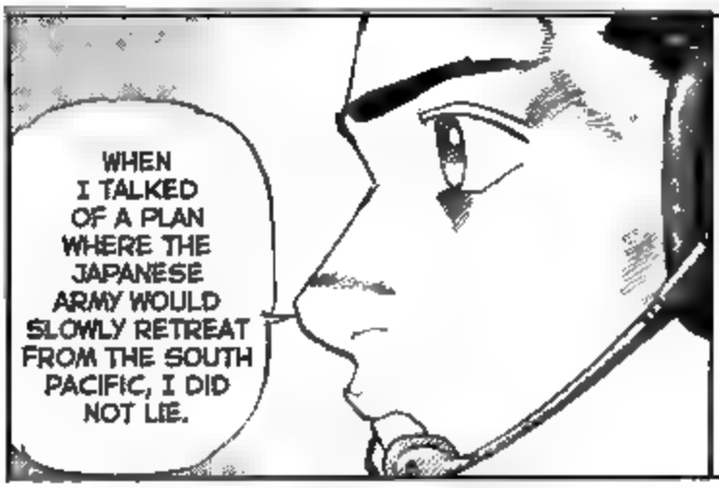
WHERE ARE YOU CALLING FROM?

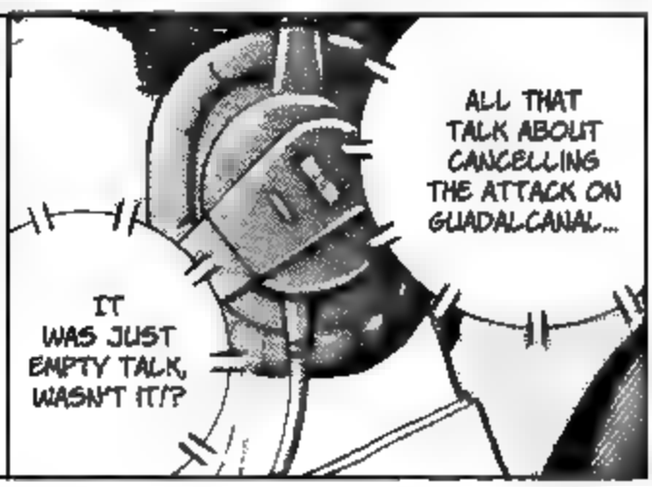
KUSAKA!?

FROM THE LIMITOR!.
FROM THE YAMATO'S AIRCRAFT HANGAR.


REST ASSURED, HE IS BEING TREATED AS A DISTINGUISHED GUEST.
AND LIEUTENANT SATAKE? DON'T TELL ME YOU...


IT'S USELESS!
COMMANDER, I WANT YOU TO LISTEN TO ME.


WHEN I TALKED OF A PLAN WHERE THE JAPANESE ARMY WOULD SLOWLY RETREAT FROM THE SOUTH PACIFIC, I DID NOT LIE.


ALL THAT TALK ABOUT CANCELLING THE ATTACK ON GUADALCANAL...
IT WAS JUST EMPTY TALK, WASN'T IT!?

MORE THAN 5 MINUTES BEFORE WE OPEN FIRE...

BUT WE ARE AT WAR! I AM SURE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IT TOO ONE DAY...

I...DO NOT WISH TO CAUSE YOU TO DIE!

...THE YAMATO WILL BE HIT BY A HARPOON MISSILE!

IF YOU WANT TO, GO RIGHT AHEAD...

IF EVEN A SINGLE CANNON IS FIRED...

FOR US, BLOOS IS THE SAME WHETHER YOU'RE WHITE OR YELLOW!
IT'S ALWAYS RED! UNDERSTAND!?

SO YOU'RE SIDING WITH THE AMERICANS?

WAKE 35/Fin.

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EDITORS- QUARTZIE,
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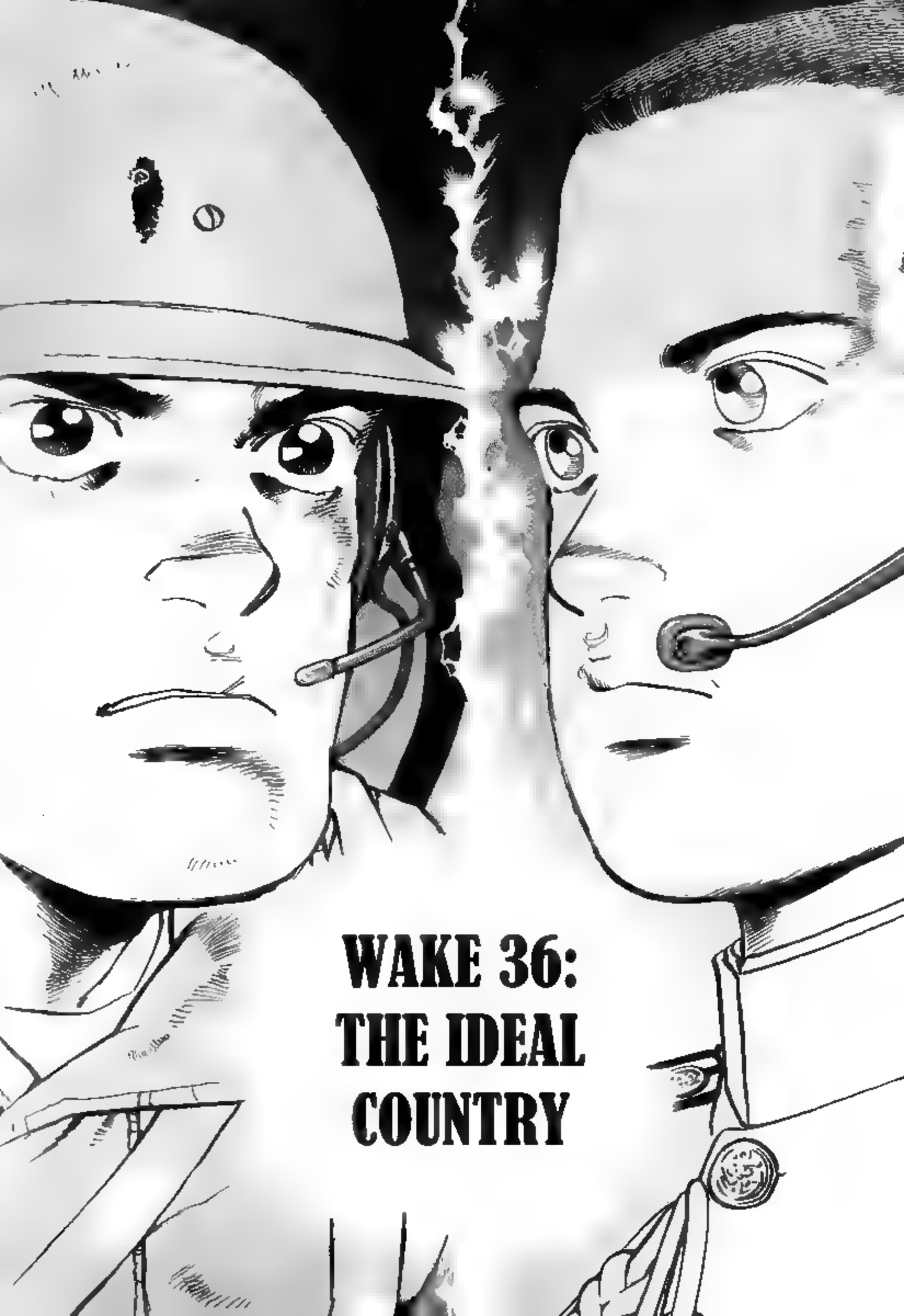
AND I AM ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THAT THANKS TO YOU...

A LIFE IS EXTREMELY PRECIOUS. NATIONALITY OR RACE DON'T CHANGE THAT IN THE SLIGHTEST.
THAT'S EXACTLY RIGHT, COMMANDER.

THE JAPANESE OF 60 YEARS IN THE FUTURE WHO THINK THAT WAY...NOT ONLY THAT, BUT ALSO THE JAPANESE SERVING ON A BATTLESHIP... I FEEL VERY PROUD OF THEM.
HUH!?

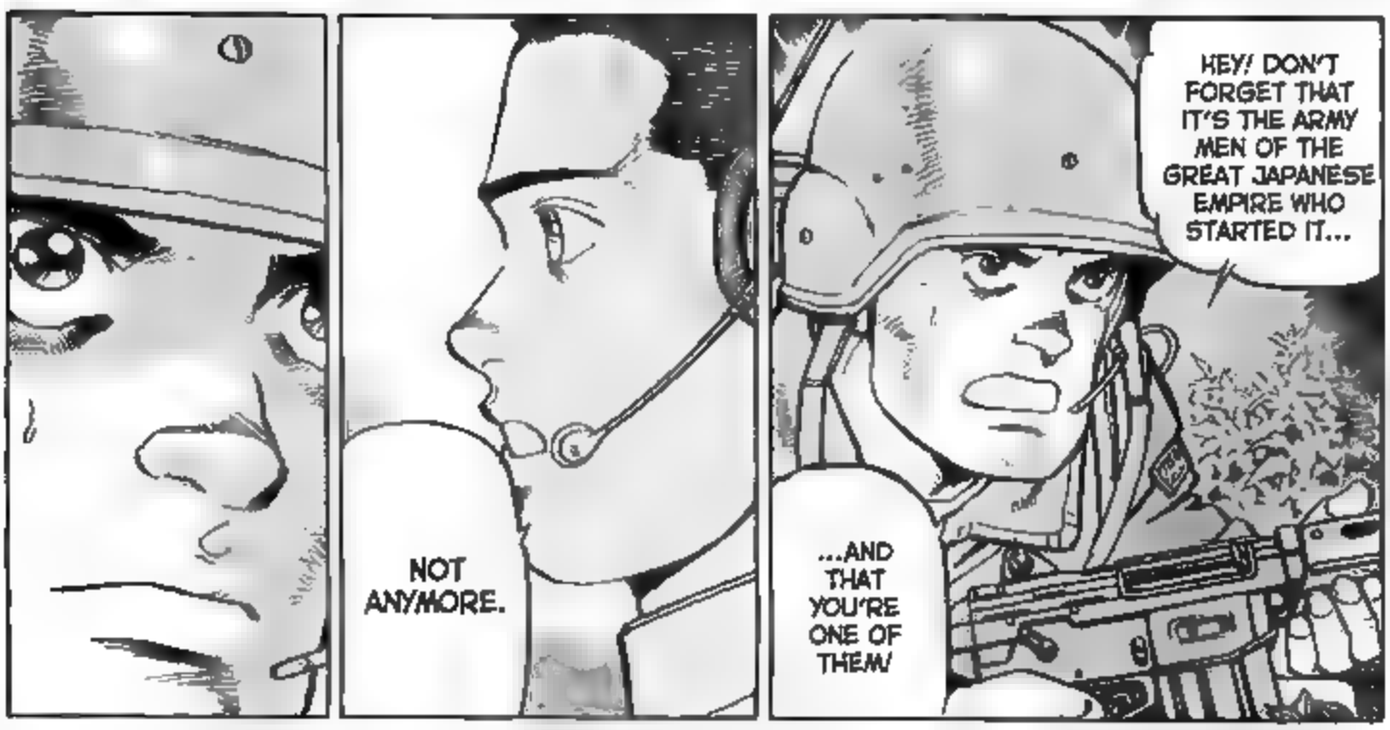
...RIGHT NOW, WE ARE AT WAR.
AND UNFORTU-NATELY...

BUT THIS IDEOLOGY ONLY HOLDS IN TIMES OF PEACE.



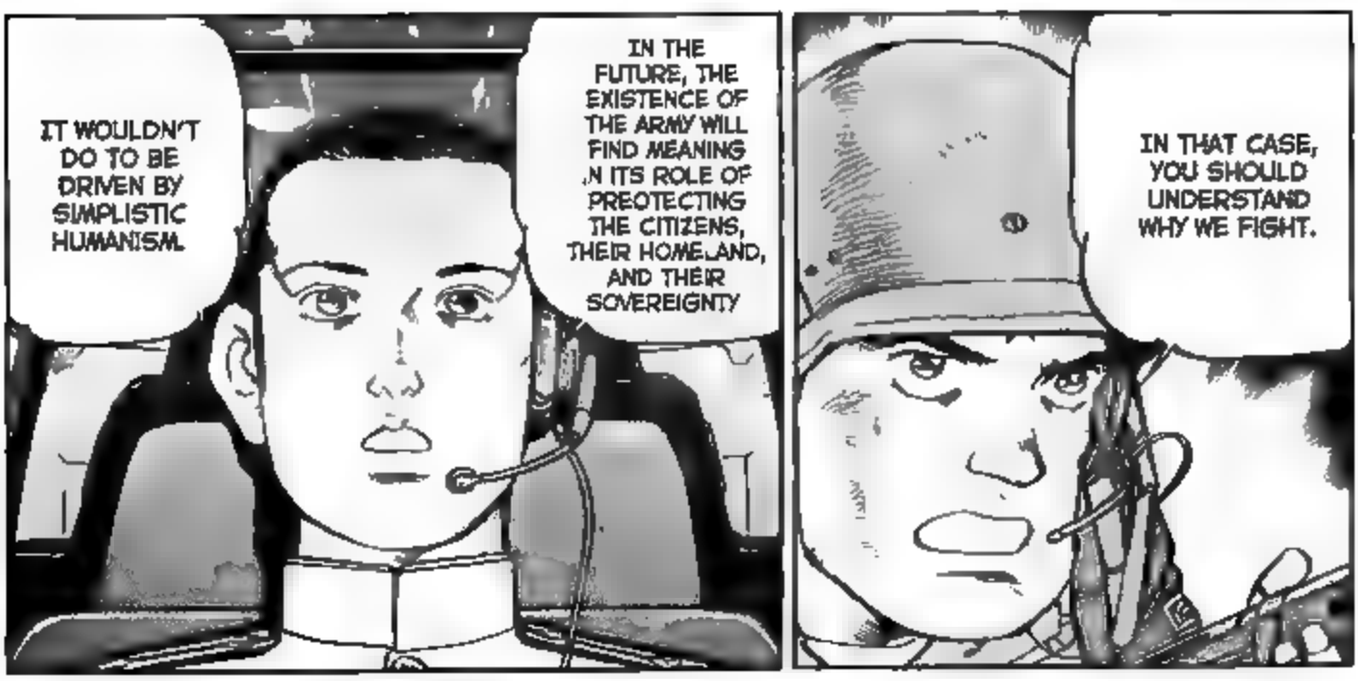
WAKE 36: THE IDEAL COUNTRY

...IN THE CURRENT JAPAN, THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ARMY MEN AND CIVILIANS. THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS FIGHTING.
IT'S NOTHING TO BE HAPPY ABOUT, BUT...


NOT ANYMORE.
HEY! DON'T FORGET THAT IT'S THE ARMY MEN OF THE GREAT JAPANESE EMPIRE WHO STARTED IT...
...AND THAT YOU'RE ONE OF THEM!

I'VE ALREADY RETURNED MY OFFICER'S BADGE TO ADMIRAL YAMAMOTO. I AM NO LONGER A SOLDIER OF THE EMPIRE.
THANKS TO OUR MEETING AND TO THE FACT THAT I LEARNED OF THE FUTURE, I REALIZED THE MISTAKE OUR COUNTRY WAS MAKING.

THE HOMELAND YOU NEEDED TO PROTECT...
AS FOR YOU, THE CREW OF THE MIRAI WHO FIND THEMSELVES IN THE MIDST OF THIS WAR, THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO TRY AND PROTECT THE GREAT EMPIRE.
...THAT DAY, DISAPPEARED INTO THE MIST.


IT WOULDN'T DO TO BE DRIVEN BY SIMPLISTIC HUMANISM.
IN THE FUTURE, THE EXISTENCE OF THE ARMY WILL FIND MEANING IN ITS ROLE OF PROTECTING THE CITIZENS, THEIR HOMELAND, AND THEIR SOVEREIGNTY
IN THAT CASE, YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND WHY WE FIGHT.

NO!!
WHAT I SEE IS SOMEBODY WHO WANTS TO WIPE OUT THE AMERICANS. YOU'RE STILL A SOLDIER OF THE GREAT JAPANESE EMPIRE.

THE COUNTRY WE FIGHT, THE ONE WE NEED TO PROTECT, IS NOT THIS ONE...
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
IN REALITY...
...NOR THE POST-WAR JAPAN THAT ACCEPTED A HUMILIATING UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER.
...IT IS NEITHER THE GREAT JAPANESE EMPIRE THAT COMMITED TO THIS WAR WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST STRATEGY...
AND YOU CERTAINLY SEE IT TOO.
...THAT A COUNTRY STARTED TAKING SHAPE IN MY MIND.
IT'S BECAUSE I RECEIVED KNOWLEDGE FROM BOTH ERAS...

THIS COUNTRY EXISTS, RIGHT THERE, BEFORE OUR EYES...IT IS CERTAIN...
SURROUNDED BY FOUR SEAS, INDEPENDENT, OVERFLOWING WITH STRENGTH,,,

IT
IS...
ZIPANG.

ZI...

A NEW NATION THAT NO JAPANESE HAS EVER KNOWN...
...NOT EVEN IN YOUR TIMES...

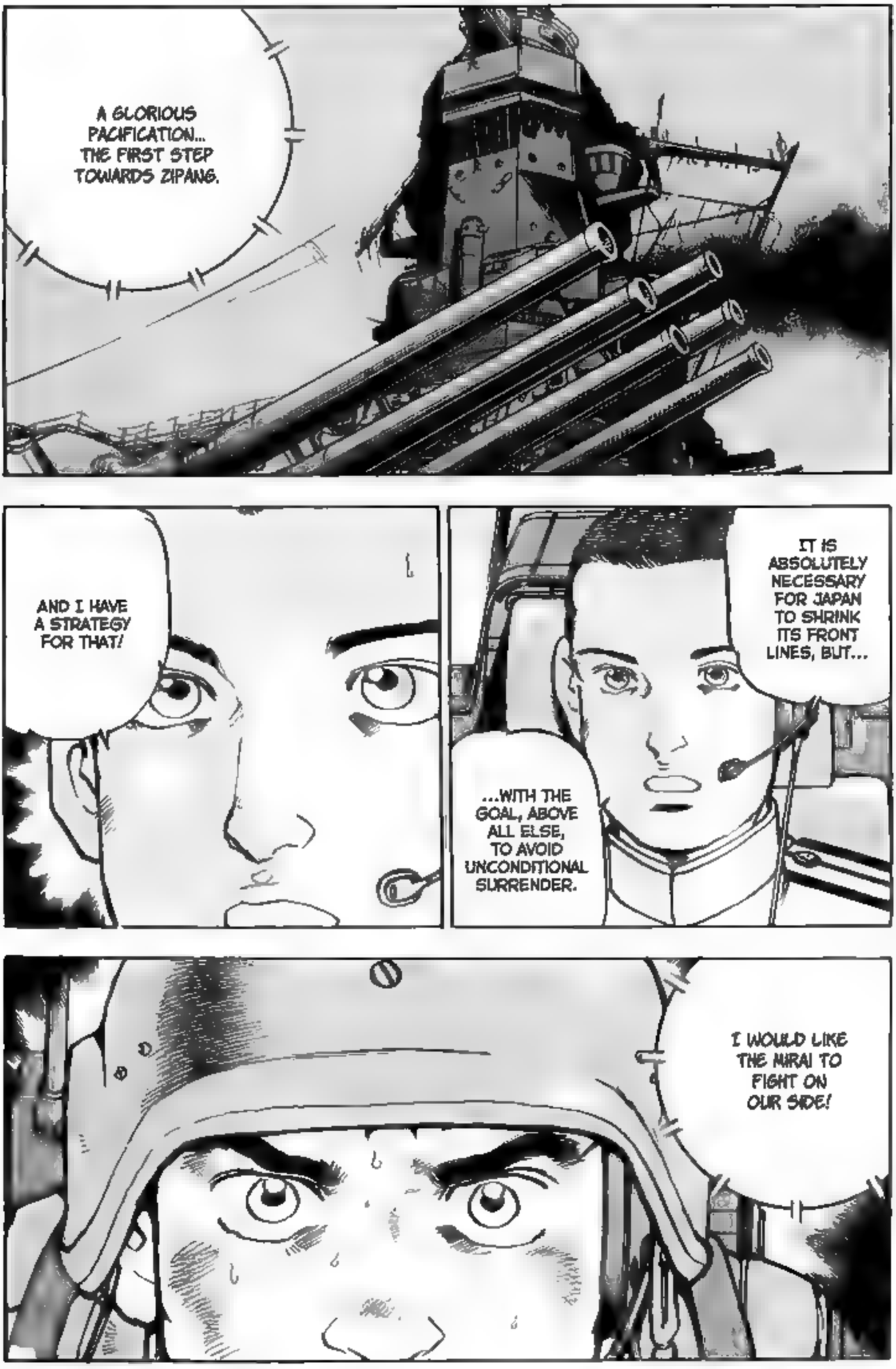
ZIPANG!?
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO CALL IT.

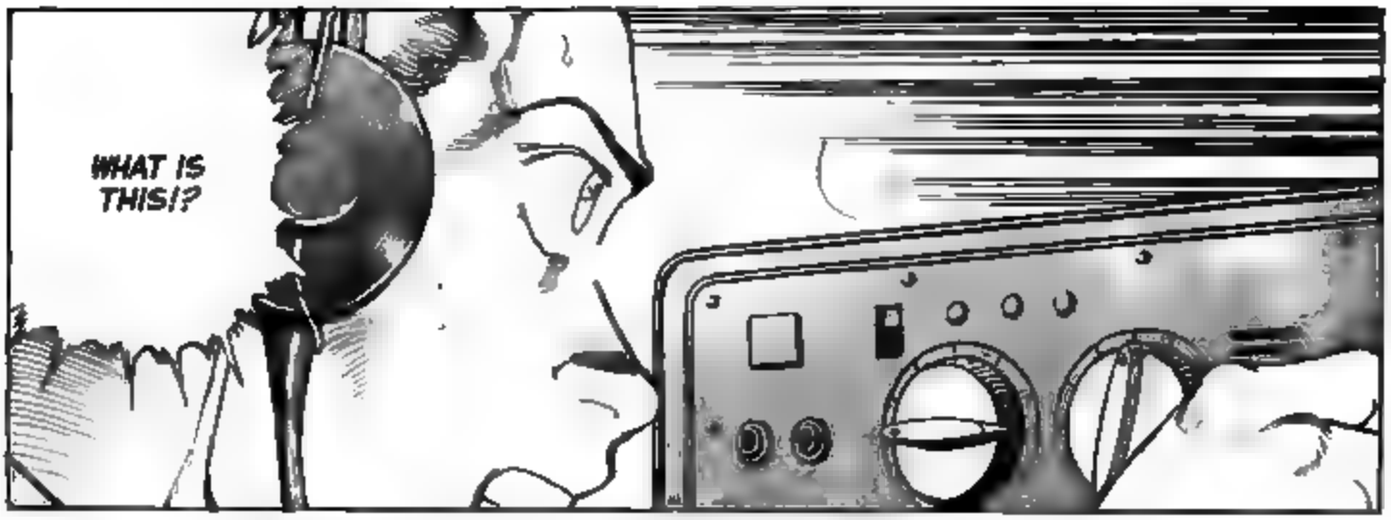
A PLACE THAT A WESTERN TRAVELLER ONCE DREAMT OF...

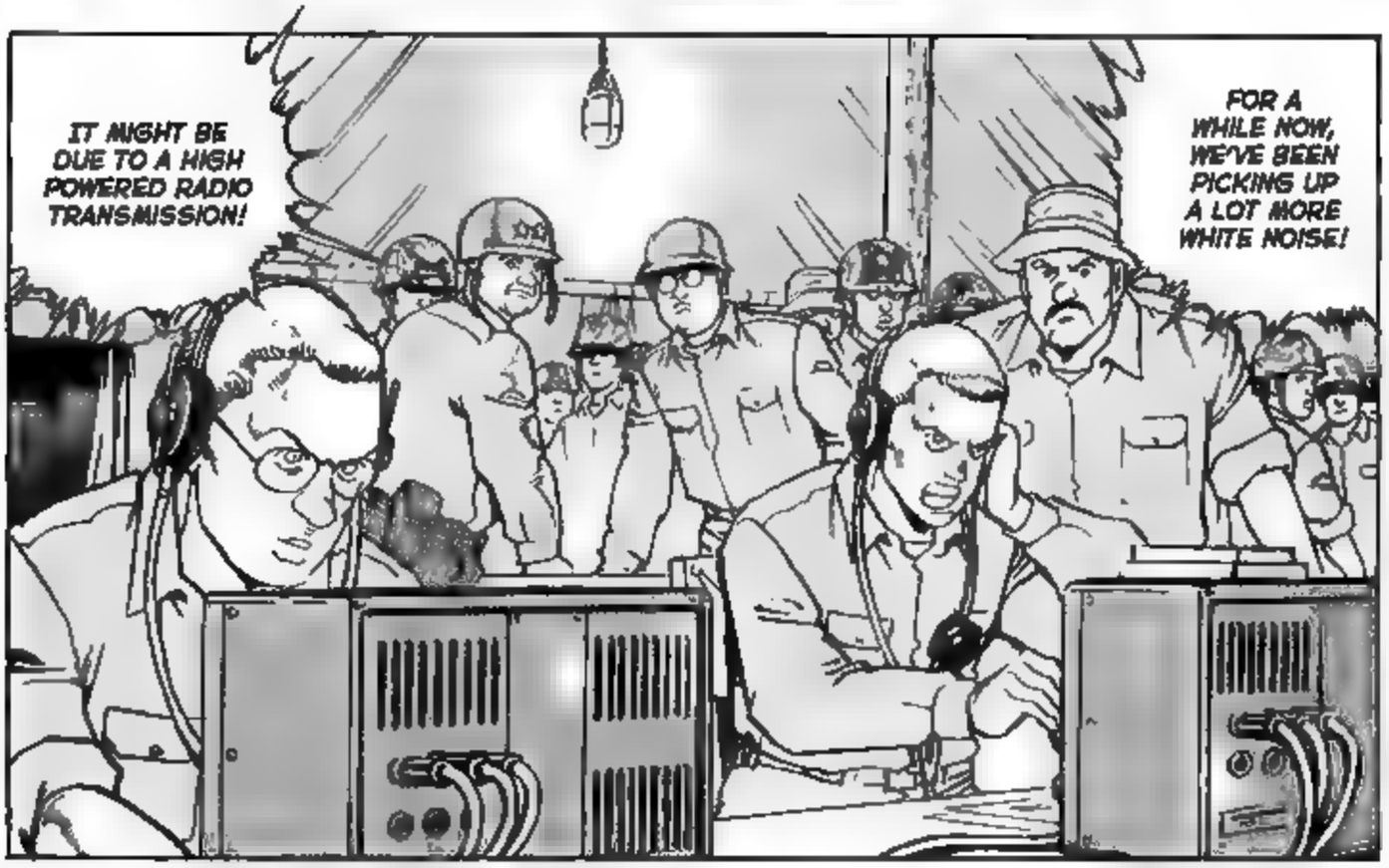
WHAT ARE YOU...

IN THE CURRENT OPERATION, THEY ARE THE FIRST SOLDIERS SENT OUT TO FIGHT, WITH NO ADVANCE TROOPS...IF THEY WERE TO ALL DIE HERE...
...IT WOULD TAKE AT LEAST ONE YEAR TO REBUILD THE DIVISION... WHAT'S MORE, THE LOSS OF 11,000 MEN, FOR THE UNITED STATES, WILL CAUSE STRONG TENSION BETWEEN PUPLIC OPINION AND THE ARMY

THE 1ST US MARINES DIVISION STATIONED AT GUADALCANAL IS A VERY LARGE ARMED FORCE THAT WILL BE CRUCIAL FOR THE LAND OPERATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES.

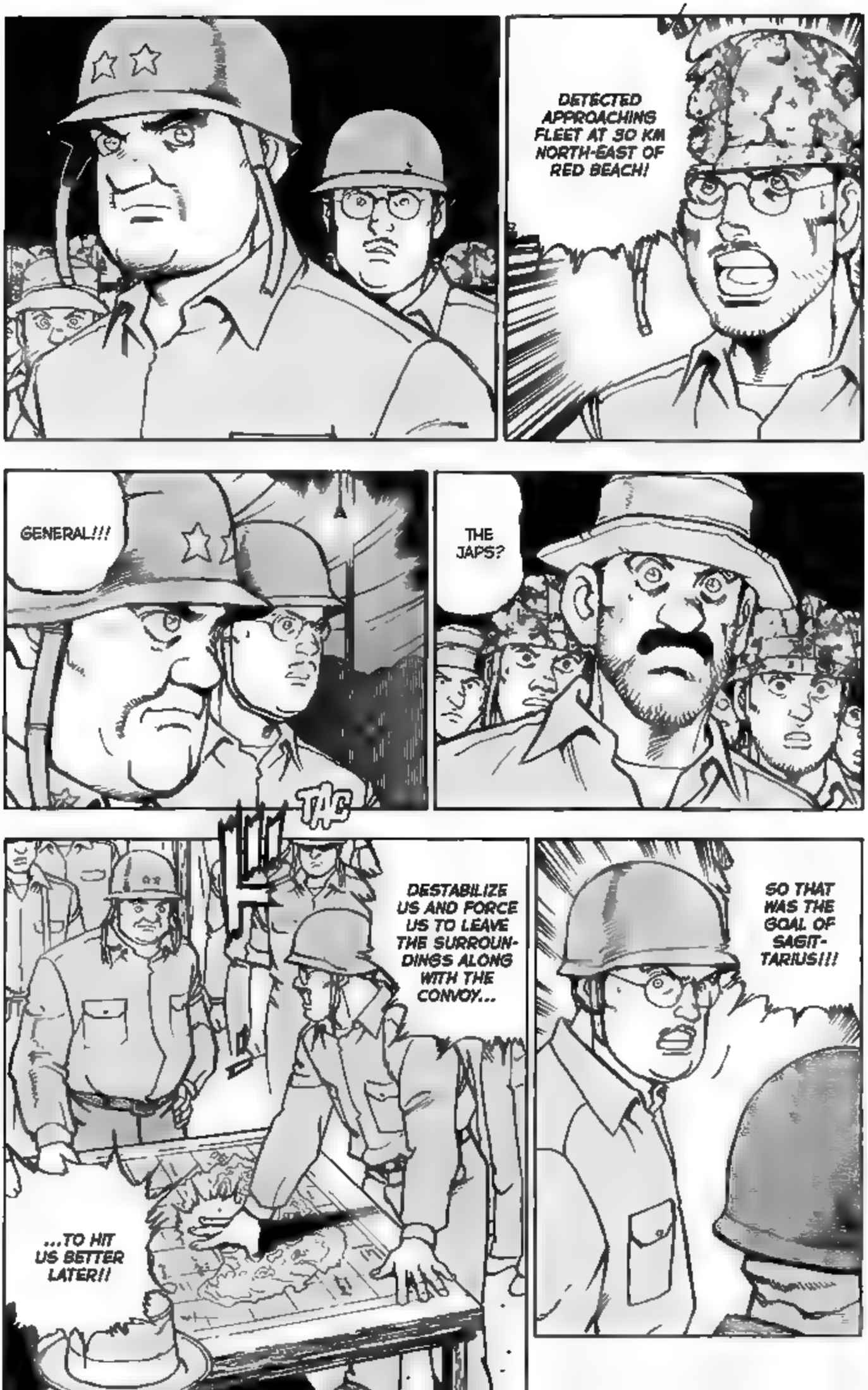

A GLORIOUS PACIFICATION... THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS ZIPANG.
AND I HAVE A STRATEGY FOR THAT!
IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR JAPAN TO SHRINK ITS FRONT LINES, BUT...
...WITH THE GOAL, ABOVE ALL ELSE, TO AVOID UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER.
I WOULD LIKE THE MIRAI TO FIGHT ON OUR SIDE!


WHAT IS THIS!?


IT MIGHT BE DUE TO A HIGH POWERED RADIO TRANSMISSION!
FOR A WHILE NOW, WE'VE BEEN PICKING UP A LOT MORE WHITE NOISE!

GENERAL! AN EMERGENCY CALL FROM REAR-ADMIRAL TURNER, FROM THE SUPPLY TROOPS.

WHAT!?


DETECTED APPROACHING FLEET AT 30 KM NORTH-EAST OF RED BEACH!
GENERAL!!!
THE JAPS?
DESTABILIZE US AND FORCE US TO LEAVE THE SURROUN-DINGS ALONG WITH THE CONVOY...
...TO HIT US BETTER LATER!!
SO THAT WAS THE GOAL OF SAGIT-TARIUS!!!

FIGHTING ON GROUND REQUIRES CAREFUL PREPARATION/ SEEN FROM THIS LIGHT, ATTACKING THE CONVOY FROM THE SEA IS A LOT MORE EFFICIENT/
EXCUSE ME?
THAT'S ENOUGH.
ORGANIZE AN EXTENSIVE SEARCH OF THE JUNGLE!! ALL TROOPS SHOULD BE READY TO ENCOUNTER GUERRILLA FIGHTERS/
WE'VE LET OURSELVES BE MANIPULATED BY A HIDDEN ENEMY FOR FAR TOO LONG.

COMMANDER KADOMATSU, THERE'S LESS THAN A MINUTE BEFORE THE ATTACK.
DEPENDING ON YOUR ANSWER, I COULD ASK FOR A DELAY OF THE ATTACK SO THAT YOU CAN EVACUATE.
WE SHOULD GO!!
COMMANDER! THERE ARE CAVES OVER THERE!
LEAVE YOUR ARGUMENT FOR A LATER TIME!

...I DON'T LIKE IT!

AH...

YOSUKE!!!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF FAIRY-TALE COUNTRY THIS ZIPANG IS, BUT...

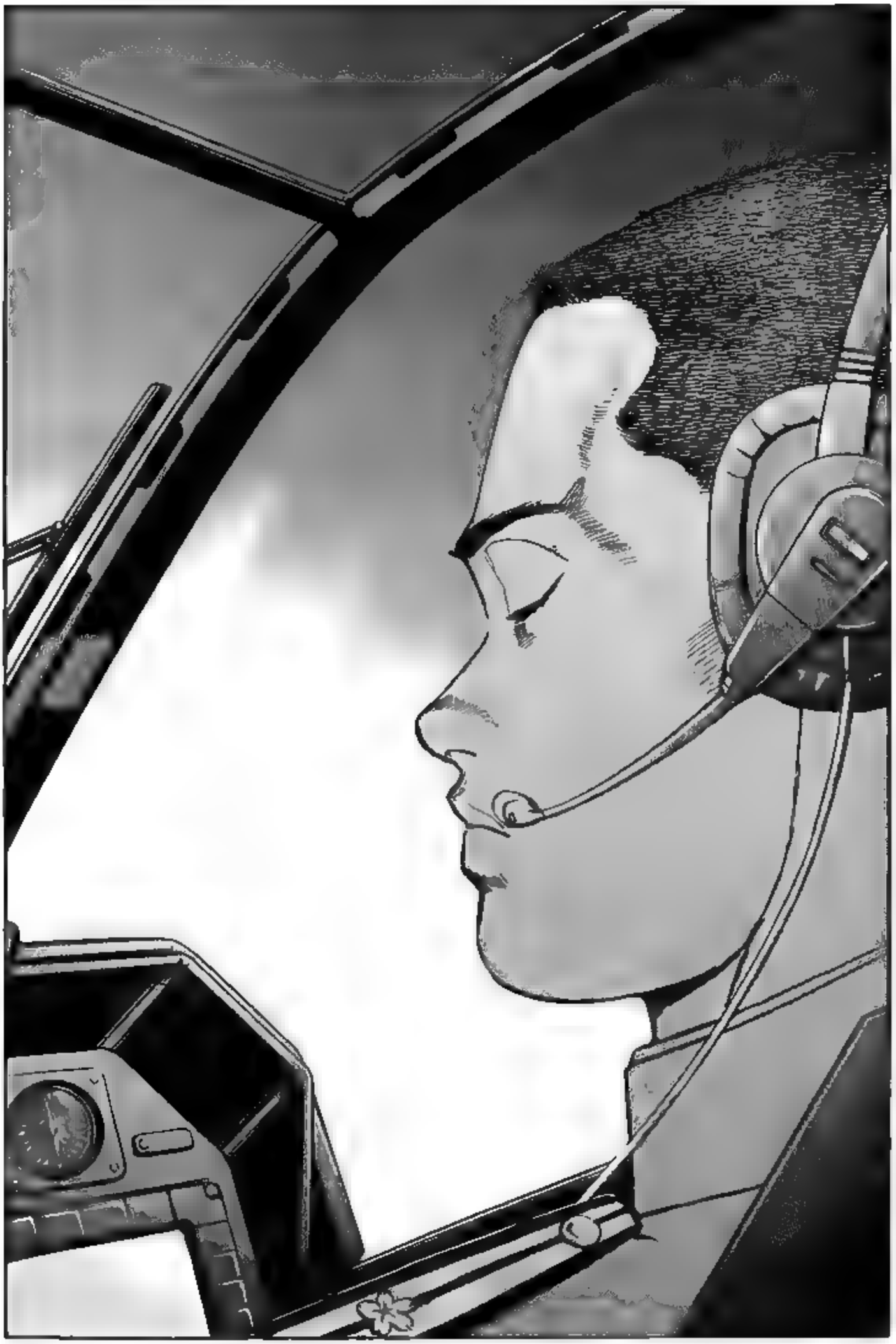
WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH...
...IS PURE CHEATING.

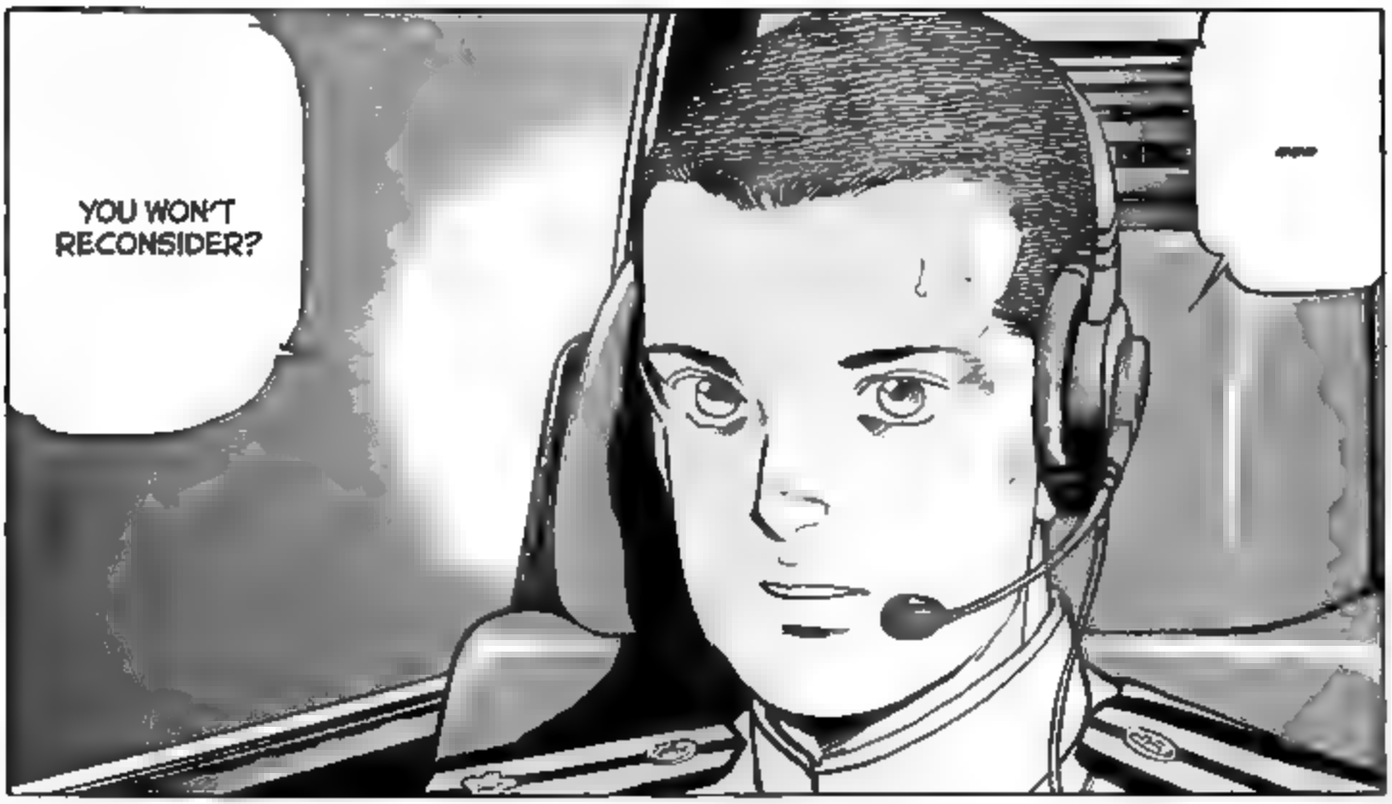
I REALLY AM INCAPABLE.
AND I CAN'T FORFIVE MYSELF FOR THAT!
I SAVED THE LIFE OF SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T CARE ABOUT THE CONSEQUNCES.
OR, IN SINGAPORE, WHEN WE WERE STILL ON THE TOSHINMARU... I COULD HAVE KILLED YOU.
IT'S NOT AS IF I DIDN'T HAVE THE CHANCE... I COULD HAVE THROWN YOU INTO THE SEA FROM YOUR WHEELCHAIR...

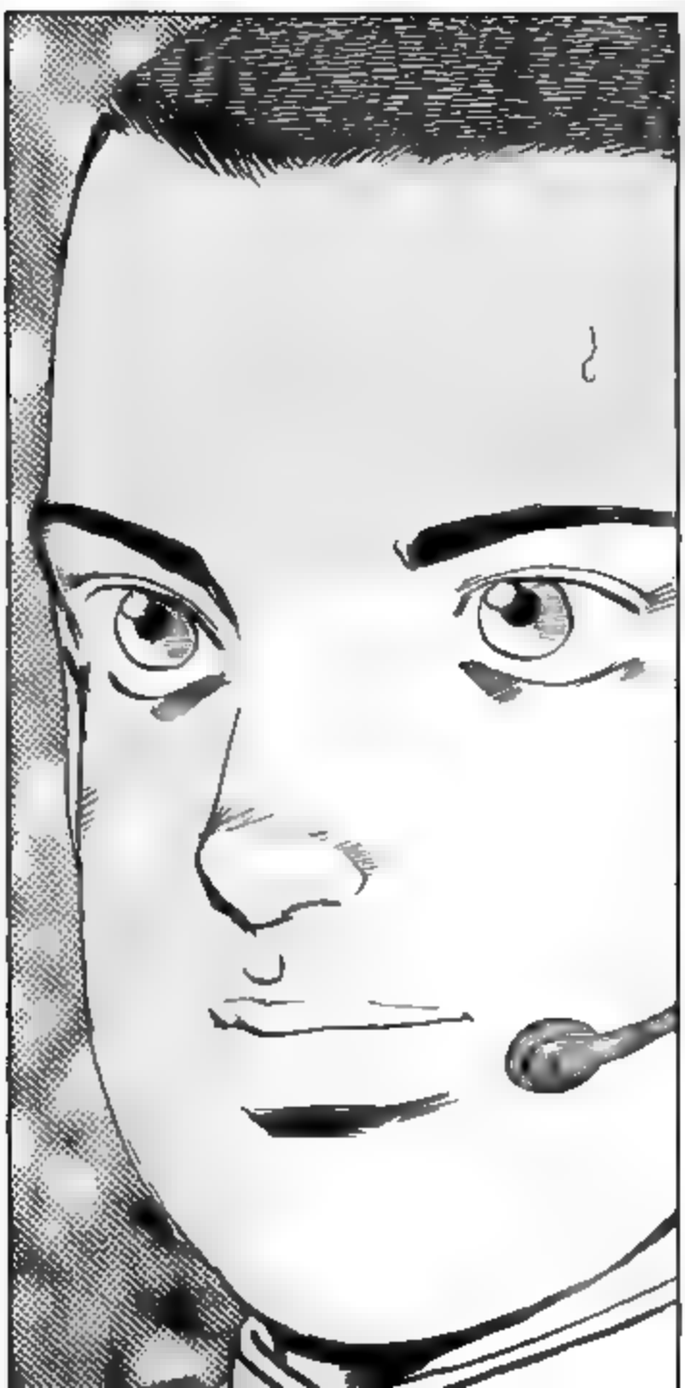
DAMN STRAIGHT ...!
FROM THE VERY DEPTHS OF MY SOUL.
YOU REGRET IT...?

BUT THEN, BE READY TO SINK WITH THE YAMATO!
YOU WANT TO SHOOT? SHOOT!!

...WON'T MOVE AN INCH FROM HERE!!
WE...




YOU WON'T RECONSIDER?
...



I SHOULD BE THE ONE...
...ASKING THAT QUESTION!!

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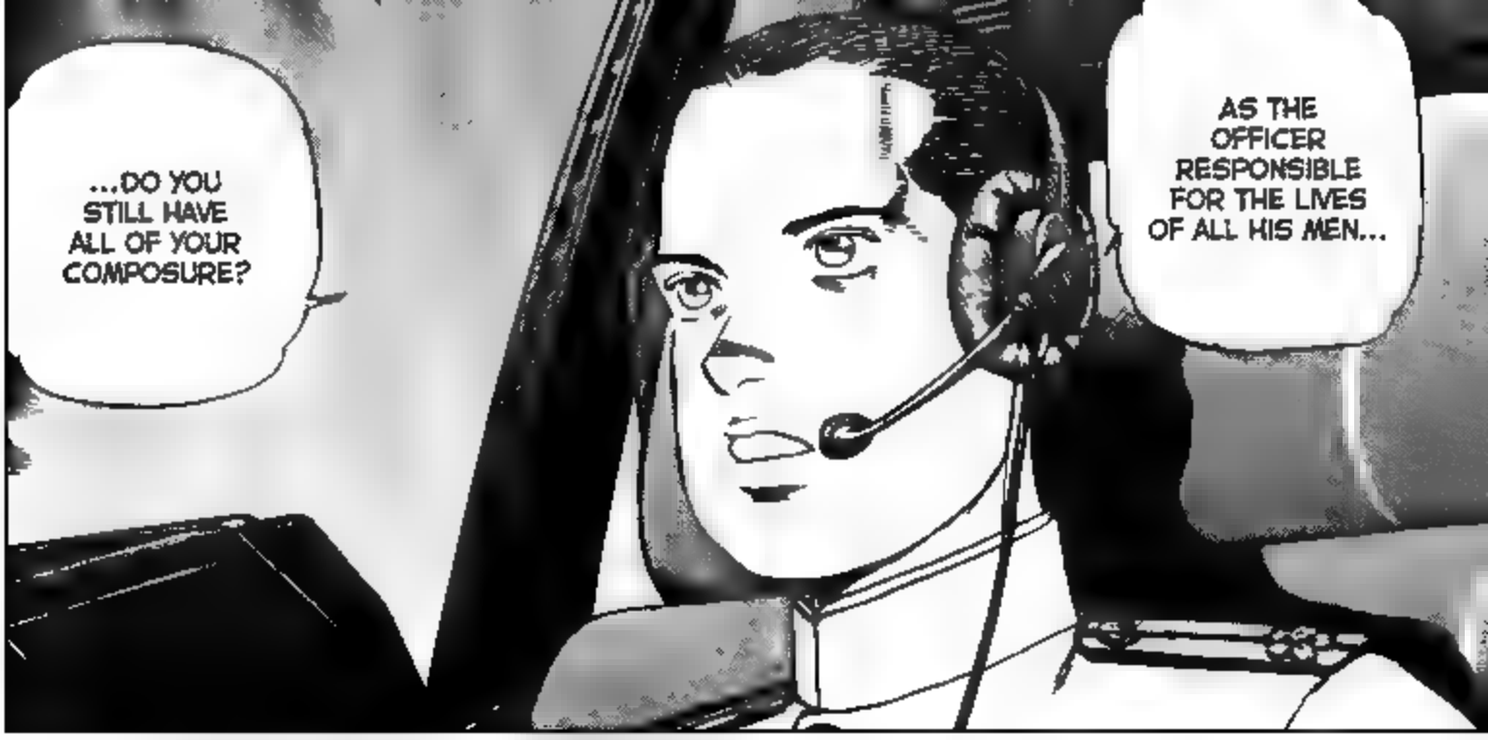
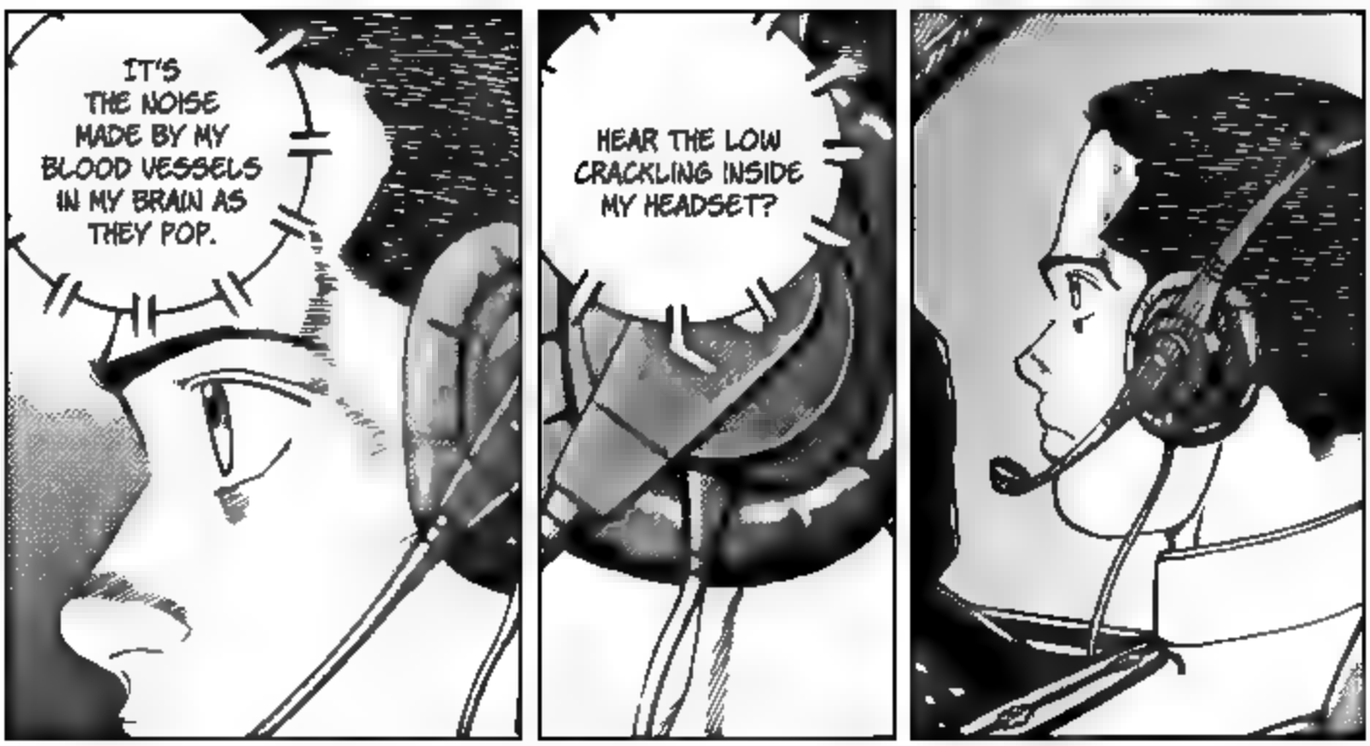
WAKE 37: FRONTAL CLASH


...DO YOU STILL HAVE ALL OF YOUR COMPOSURE?
AS THE OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIVES OF ALL HIS MEN...

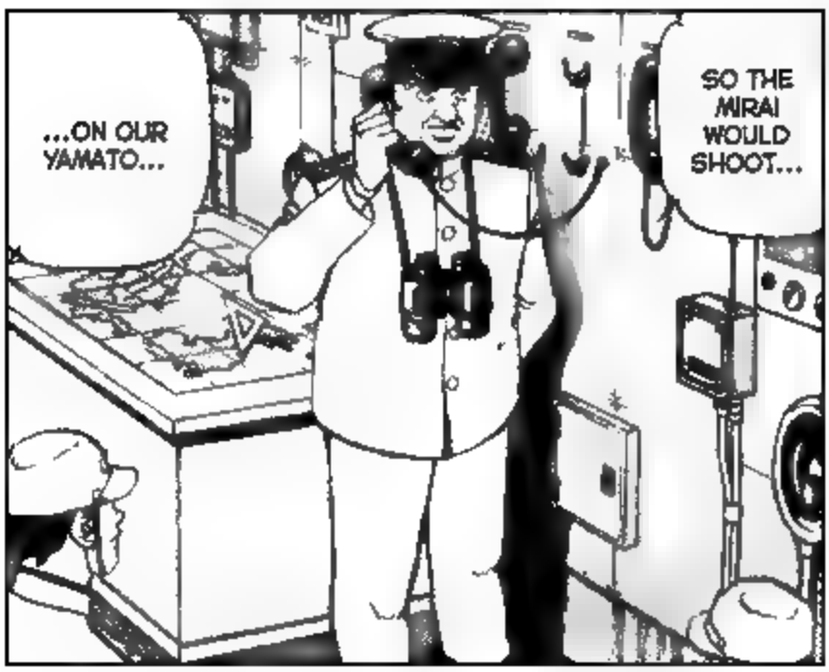

IT'S THE NOISE MADE BY MY BLOOD VESSELS IN MY BRAIN AS THEY POP.
HEAR THE LOW CRACKLING INSIDE MY HEADSET?

...I CAN SAFEFY SAY THAT I'M ANGRIER THAN I'VE EVER BEEN!!
RIGHT NOW...

AH... VERY WELL... I'M RELIEVED NOW...
WHAT!?
CLICK.

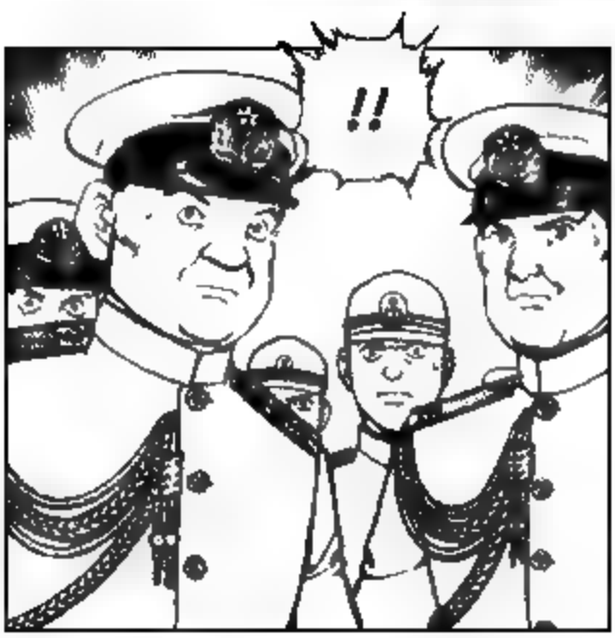
CLICK.
KUSA...
KUSAKA..
HEY! WAIT!!!
06

PLEASE DIRECT ME TO THE INTERNAL CALLING CENTER.
PASS ME THE RECEIVER...
LT. COMMANDER KUSAKA IS CALLING FROM THE HANGAR!
ADMIRAL!!!


...ON OUR YAMATO...
SO THE MIRAI WOULD SHOOT...

AH...

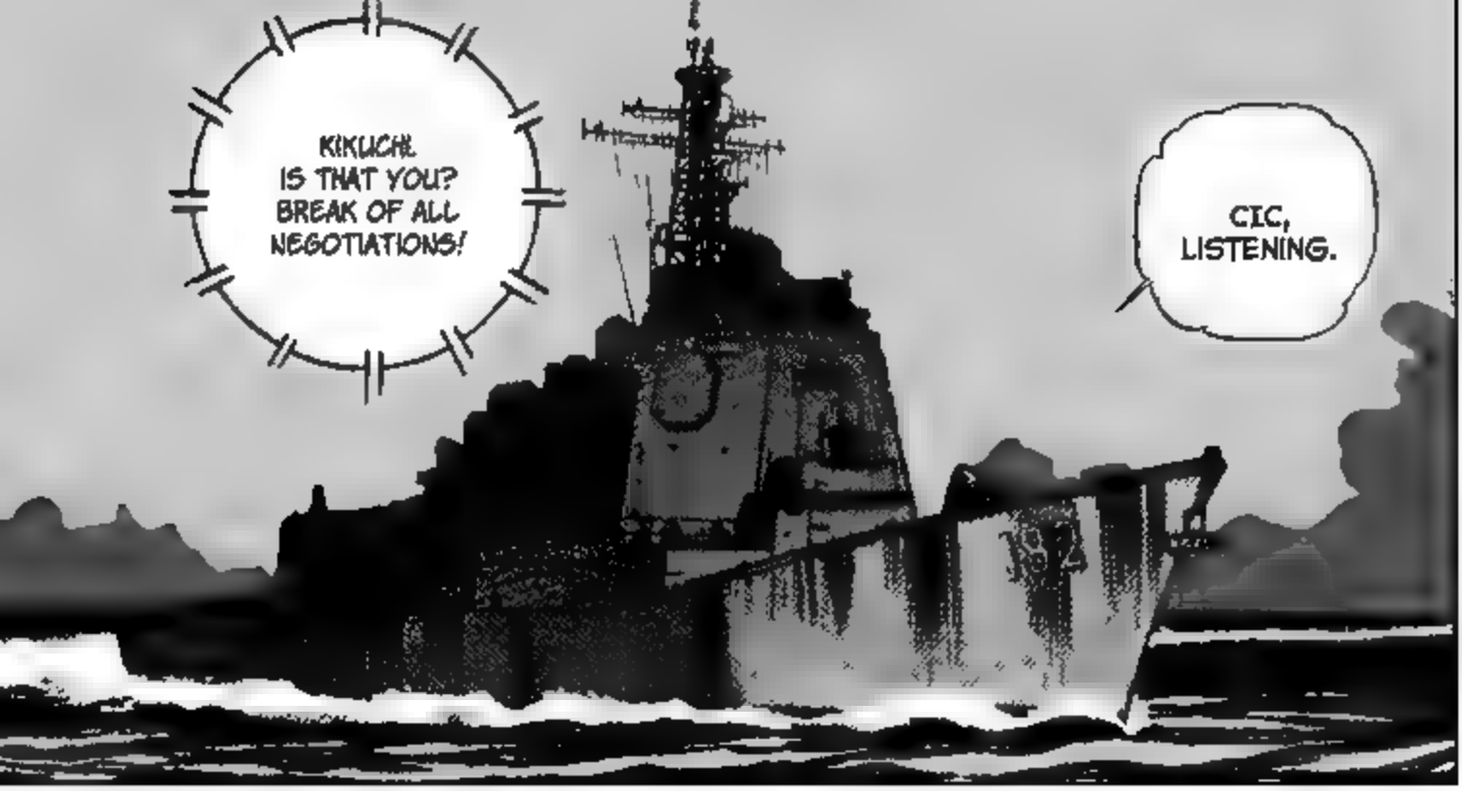
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

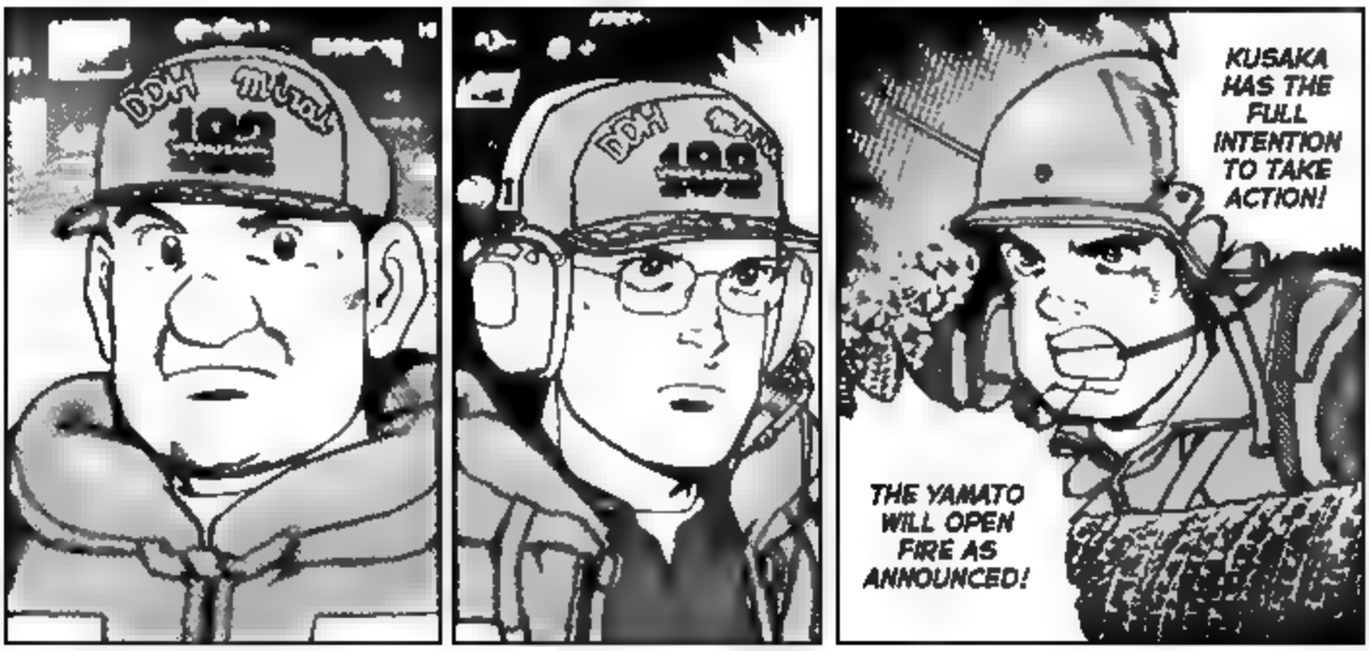

!!

THEY MEET THEIR OBJECTIVES THROUGH DISPLAYS OF FORCES... IT'S THEIR WAY OF DOING THINGS.
WELL... I DON'T THINK THEY HAVE IT IN THEM.

ACTU-
ALLY...
...THEIR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES ARE QUICKLY PUSHED ASIDE AS SOON AS HUMAN LIVES ARE AT STAKE.
WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR THAT STATEMENT?
...WOULD ENDANGER THE LIVES OF THE 2,500 JAPANESE MILITARY PERSONNEL, INCLUDING THE SAILORS, ON BOARD THE YAMATO...
I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THE MIRAI, HOPING TO PROTECT THE LIVES OF 11,000 US SOLDIERS...
I BELIEVE WE NEED TO HAVE FAITH IN THE HUMANITY OF THE OFFICER CURRENTLY ON LAND.
I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR REASONING, BUT...
...THERE'S NO REAL PROOF TO BACK IT...
THEY JUST WANT US TO CANCEL OUR ATTACK...
...AND I'M CONVINCED THEY ARE BLUFFING.

...WILL SEEK A WAY TO STRETCH OUT THE NEGOTIATIONS.
IN THE END, COMMANDER KADOMATSU...
...EVEN IF OPENLY HOSTILE TOWARDS ME...
...IS NATURALLY THE WORST POSSIBLE SITUATION YOU CAN IMAGINE, BUT...
AN ORDER TO OPEN FIRE, GIVEN IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT...
VERY WELL...
I'VE JUST SPOKEN TO HIM PERSONALLY, AND I CAN ASSURE YOU...
...THAT HE'S STILL ONE OF THE MOST CLEAR-HEADED MEN ON THIS BATTLEFIELD.


KIKUCHI. IS THAT YOU? BREAK OF ALL NEGOTIATIONS!
CIC, LISTENING.


KUSAKA HAS THE FULL INTENTION TO TAKE ACTION!
THE YAMATO WILL OPEN FIRE AS ANNOUNCED!

...AND STOP HIM! UNDERSTOOD!?
USE THE AEGIS TO ITS FULL POTIENTIAL...

YAMAMOTO OR WHOEVER ELSE IT MAY BE, IT DOESN'T MATTER.
THE ONE FACING US IS ISOROKU YAMAMOTO.
CAPTAIN UMEZU.
...TO MEET ITS OBJECTIVES...
THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS TO US IS THE MIRAI...
AIMING AT THE YAMAMOTO!!!
YAMATO
LATCH THE COORDINATES FOR VLS 1 TO 3 ON THE FRONT DECK!
SEEKER ACTIVATED!
APPARATUS READY!

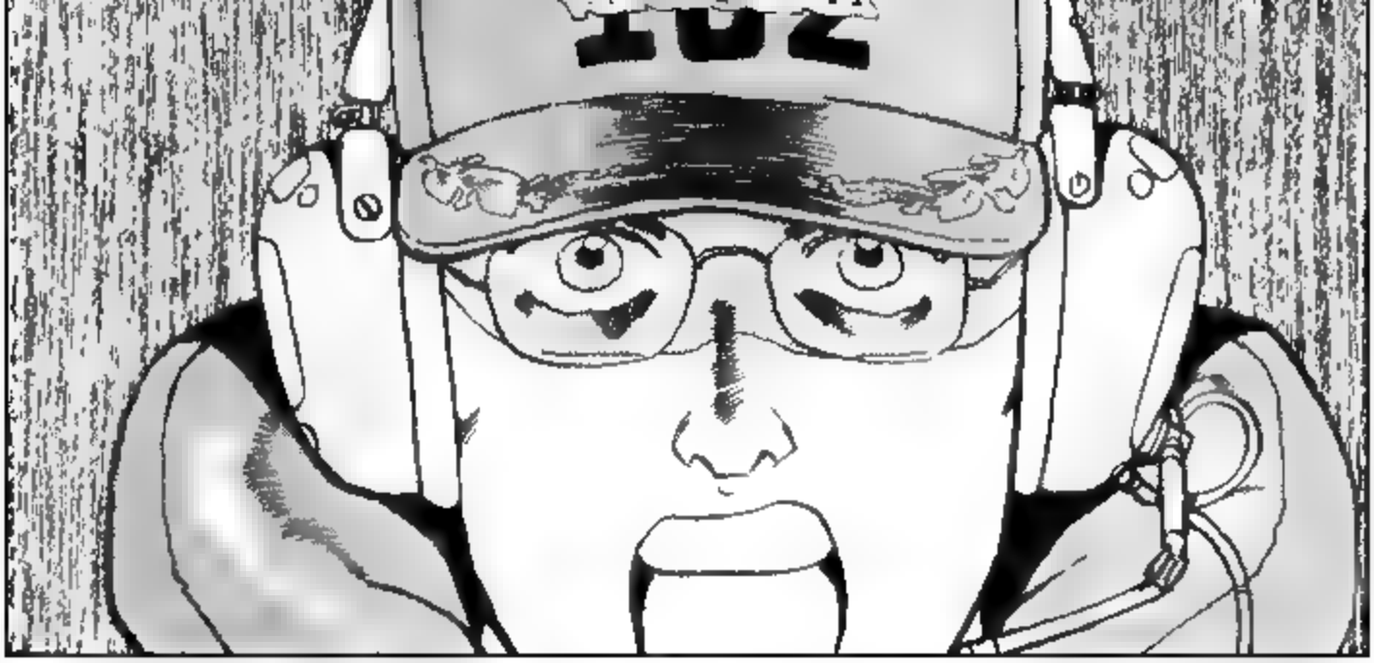
GUN TURRETS READY!
CANNONS IN PLACE!!

LET THE HEAVENS BE OUR WITNESS!!

WITH POWERFUL 460 MM CALIRBRE CANNONS...
...THE AMERICANS CAN ONLY HOLD TIGHT.

THE TIME TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT THE YAMATO IS THE BEST BATTLESHIP IN EXISTENCE...
...IS FINALLY UPON US.

FIRE!!!
AT MY COMMAND!!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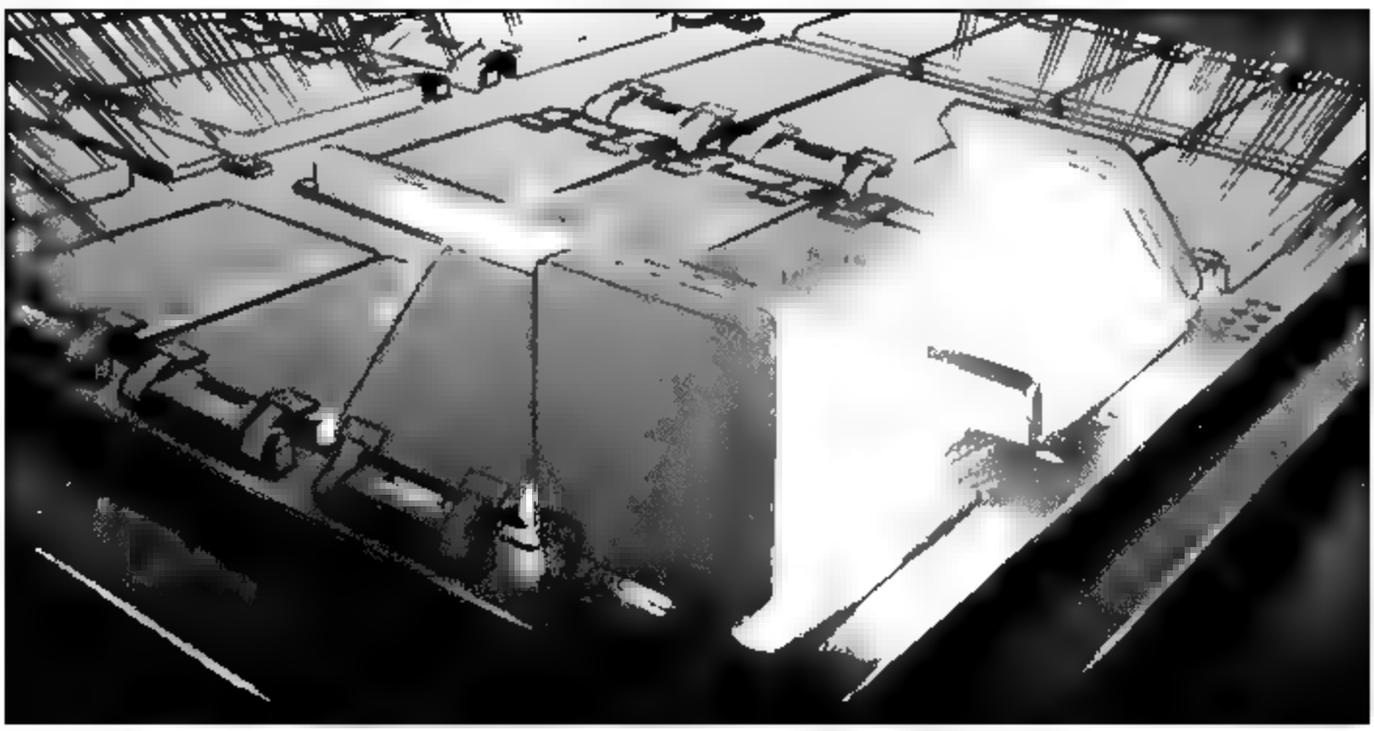

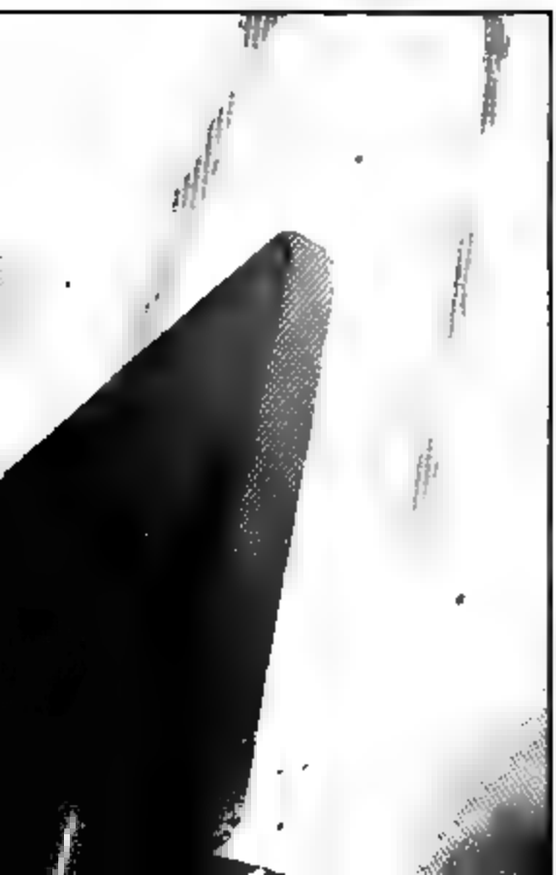

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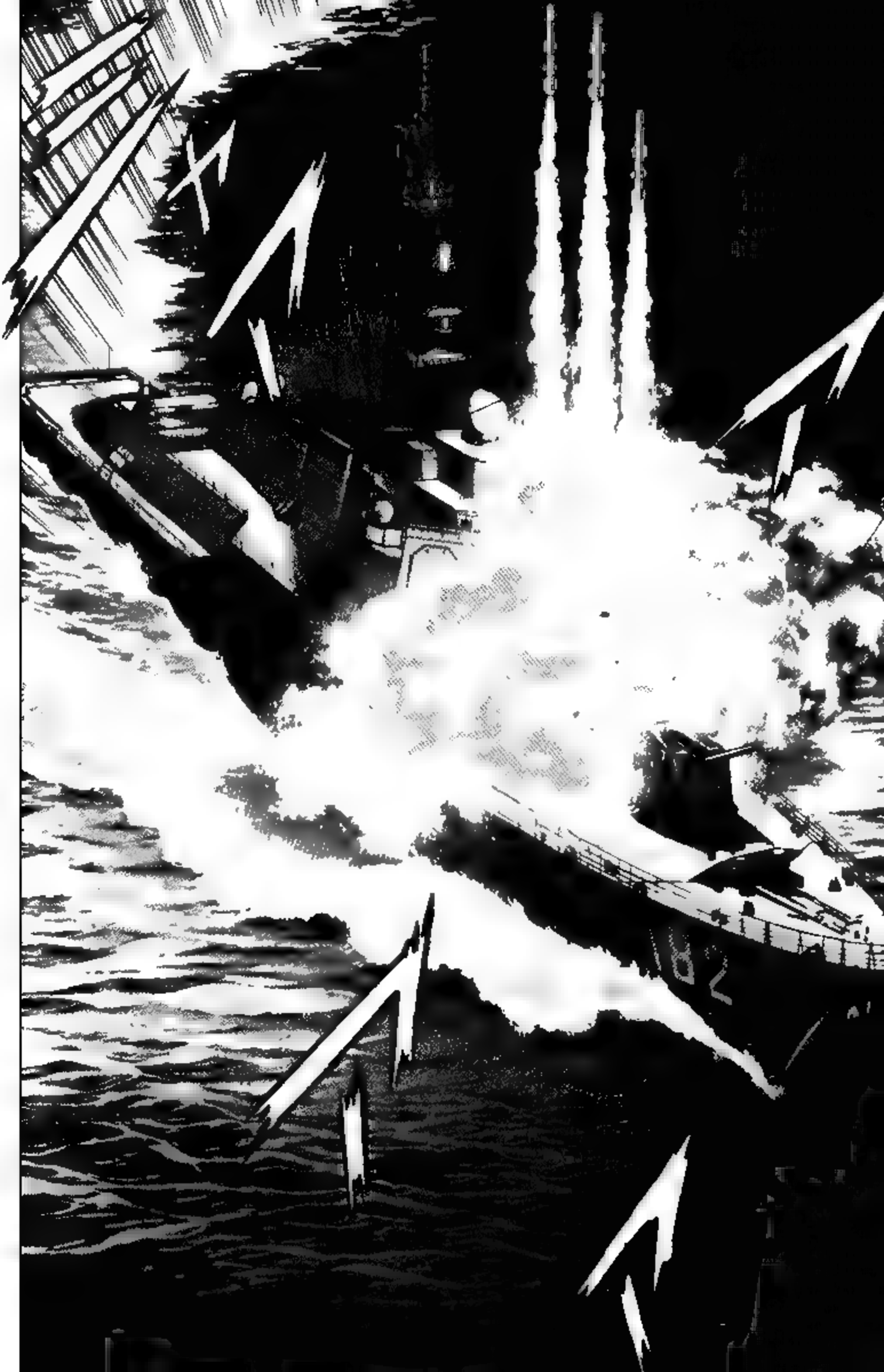
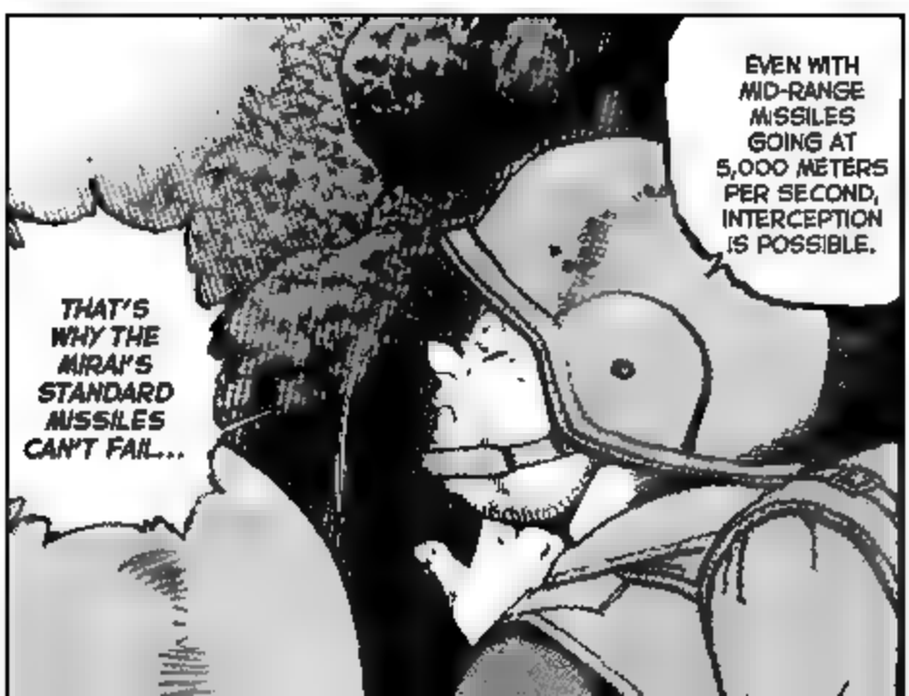


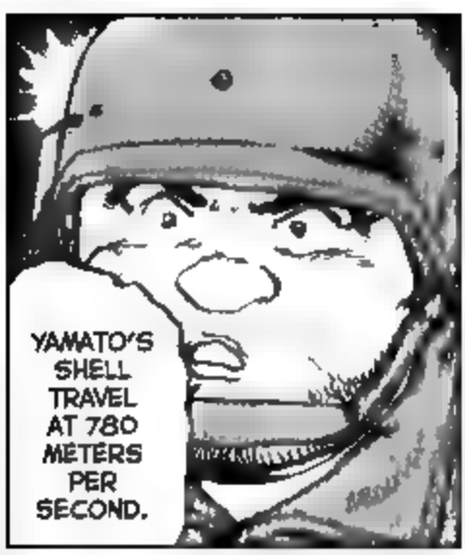
!
COMMAN-
DER!!!
AH!
I HAVE
FAITH.
WE
SHOULDN'T
STAY HERE...
COMMAN-
DER!!!
AH...

BUT IF...
NO IFS.

KIKUCHI WILL SUCCEED!

NONE OF THE YAMATO'S SHELLS WILL HIT THEIR TARGET!


EVEN WITH MID-RANGE MISSILES GOING AT 5,000 METERS PER SECOND, INTERCEPTION IS POSSIBLE.
THAT'S WHY THE MIRAI'S STANDARD MISSILES CAN'T FAIL...


YAMATO'S SHELL TRAVEL AT 780 METERS PER SECOND.

WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF THIS WAR...

...I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS!
...KUSAKA...

WAKE 37 / FIN

TRANSLATOR- NCRDRG
EDITORS- TAKASHI,
ETERNAL DREAMER
QC'ER- FLESHCUT
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LIPANG

Adobe Photoshop

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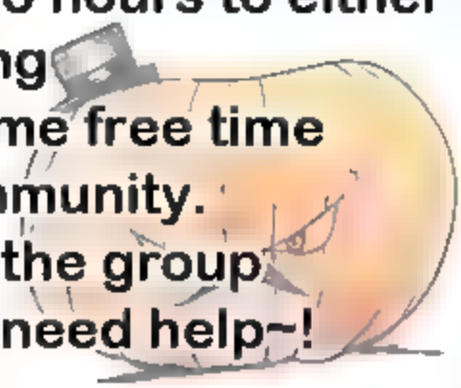
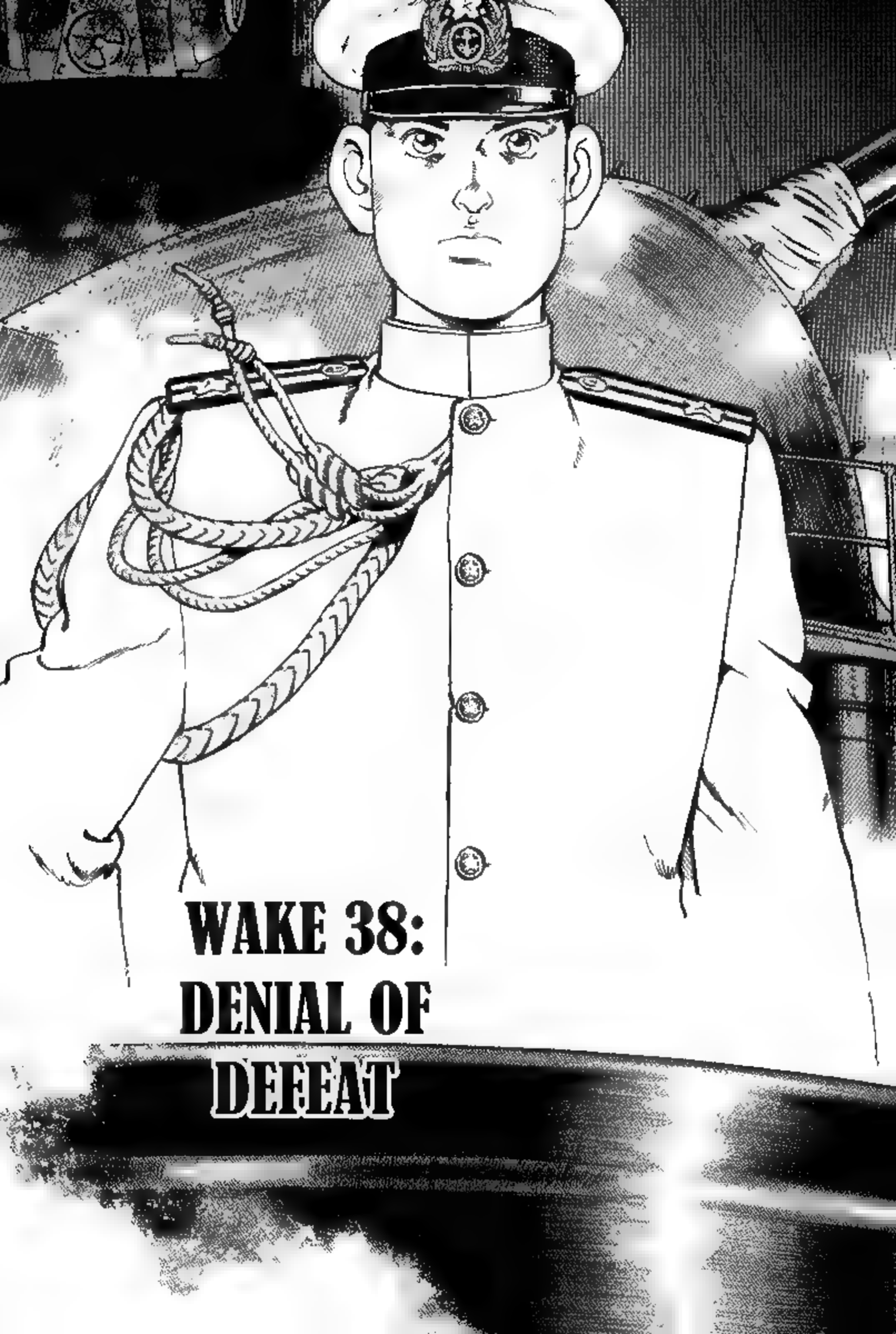
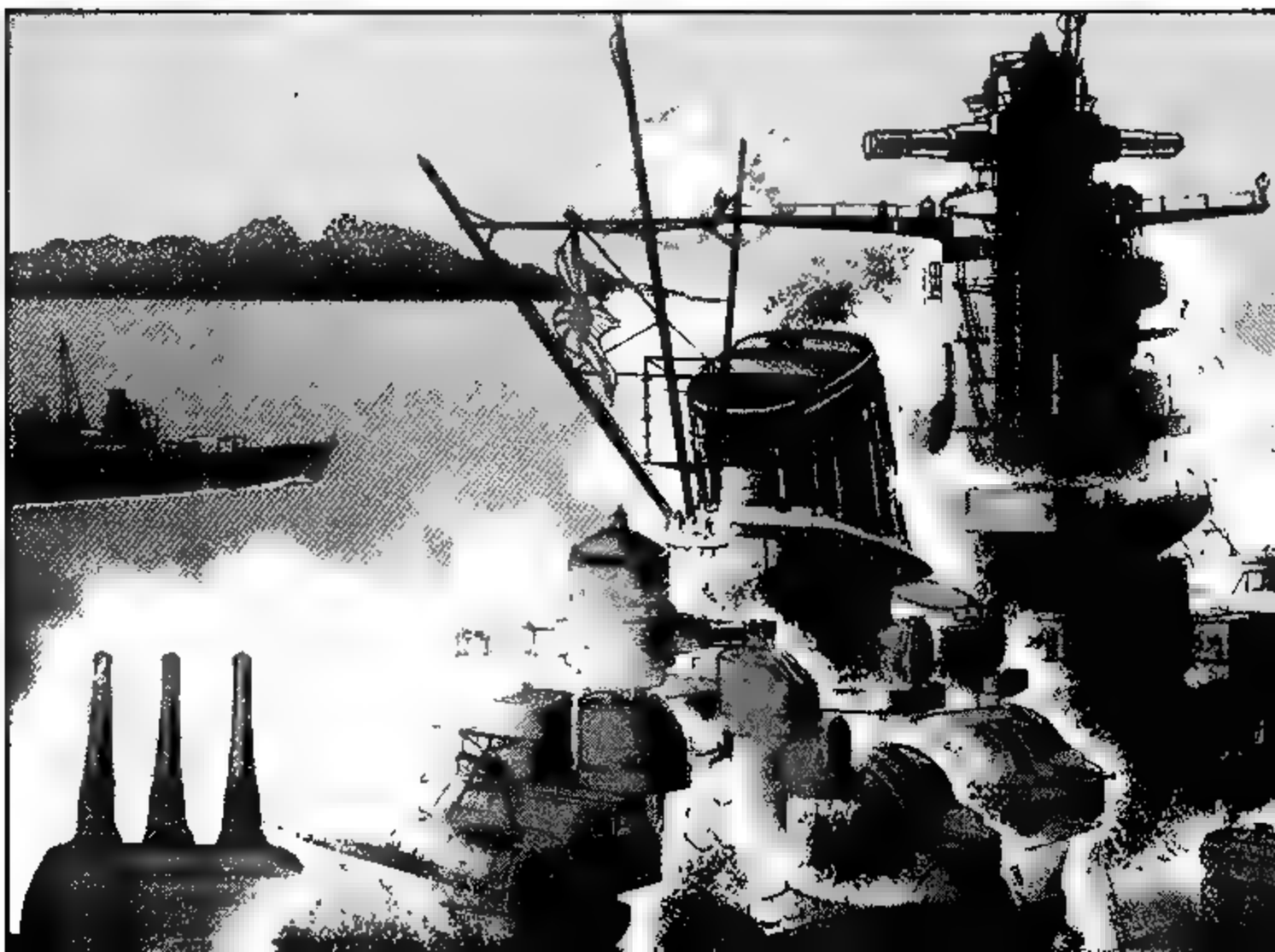
Post on our forum or Irc channel for more info or just talk to staff.

Sorry know cute anime pictures on this recruitment page this time we will show you the three things you need to help our group.
First a Computer hope i don't need to explain that one.
Second you need photoshop .
You don't need to be a pro at it we will teach you the basic things that you will need to learn in order to edit manga.
Finally you need time, it takes around two hours to either typeset or clean something so you must be willing to give up some free time in order to give back to the community.
That's it thats all you need to join the group so please apply cause we really do need help~!





WAKE 38: DENIAL OF DEFEAT

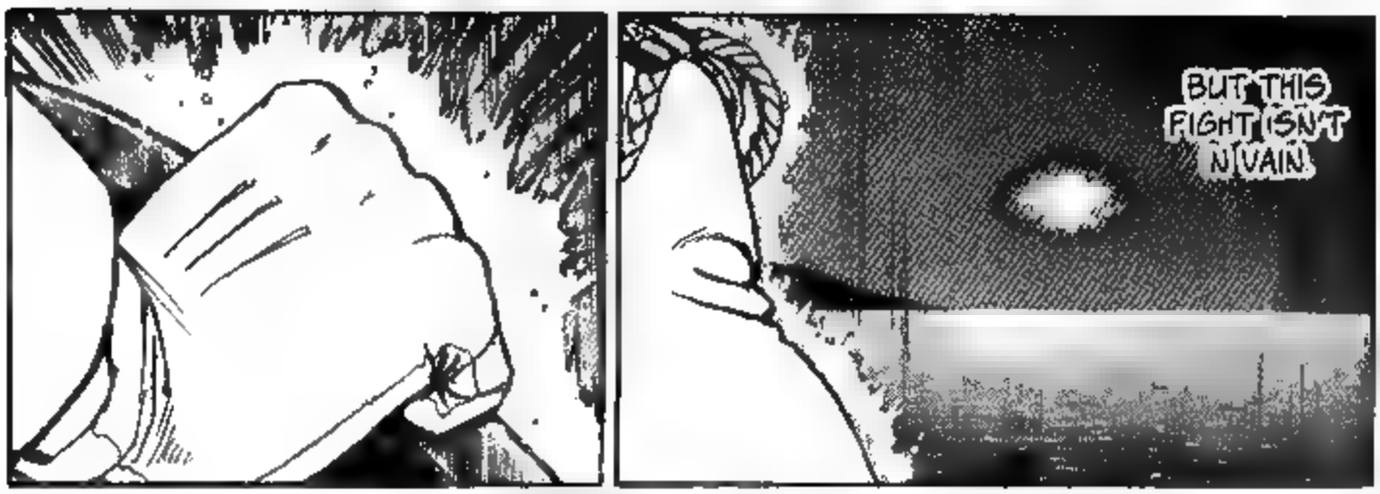


AT 0435, MESSAGE FROM THE MIRAI!
OUR SHIP IS NOW READY TO FIRE AT THE YAMATO.
"WE'VE INTERCEPTED ALL YOUR 460MM SHELLS.
...DELIVERING 454 KG OF EXPLOSIVES WITHIN A RANGE OF 450 KM."
WE WANT YOU TO CEASE FIRE. WE'RE PREPARING TOMAHAWK CRUISE MISSILES...

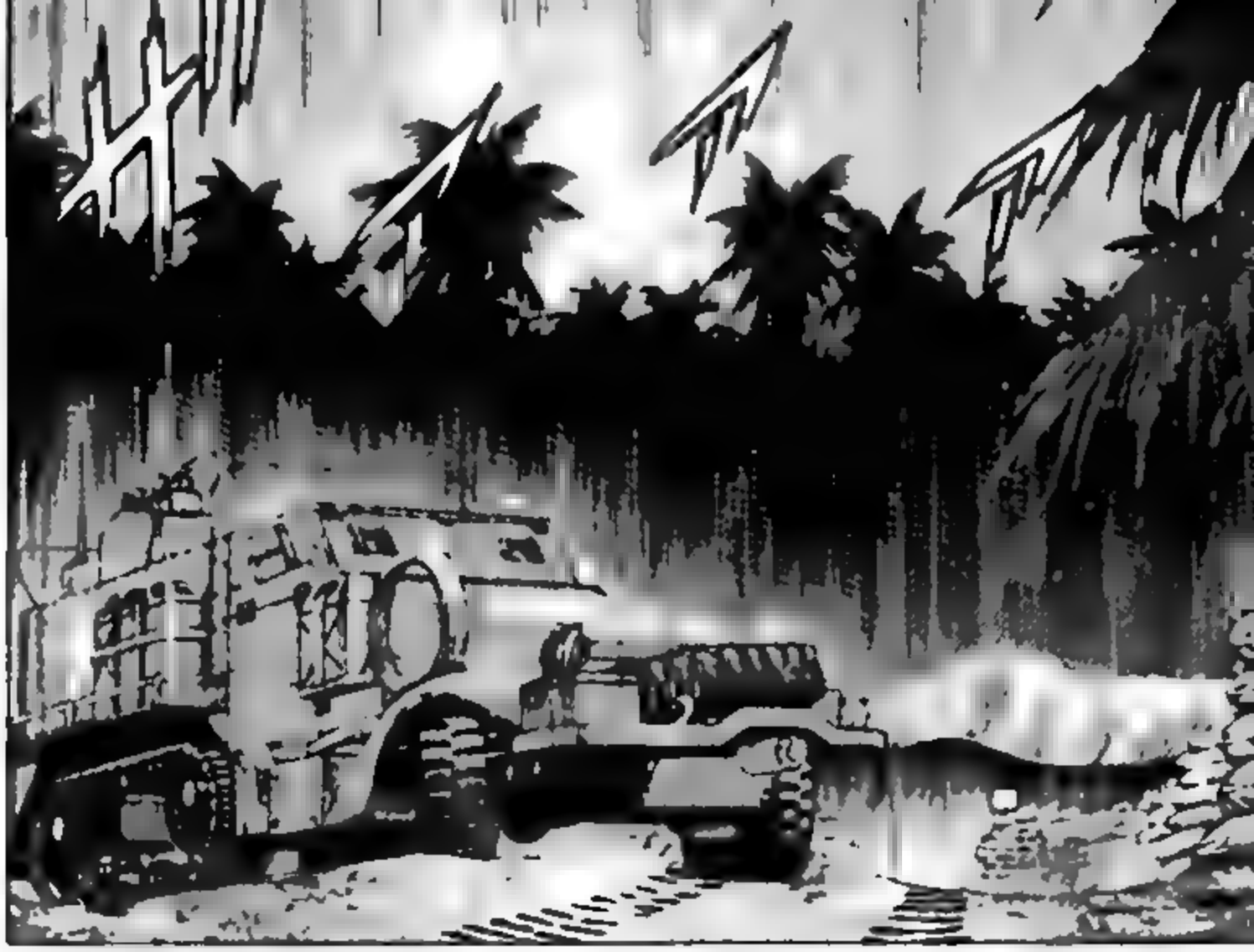
...OF 450 KM?!
WITH A RANGE...
THEY'VE COME THIS FAR.
IT WAS WORTH IT.

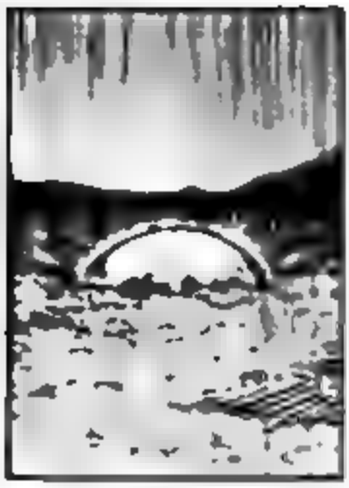
COMMANDER KADOMATSU, AND THE MIRAI...
AT LAST, THE MIRAI IS SHOWING IT'S TEETH!!

HERE'S THE PROOF YOU AREN'T GOD BUT HUMANS.
YOU'VE CHANGED...


BUT THIS FIGHT ISN'T IN VAIN.

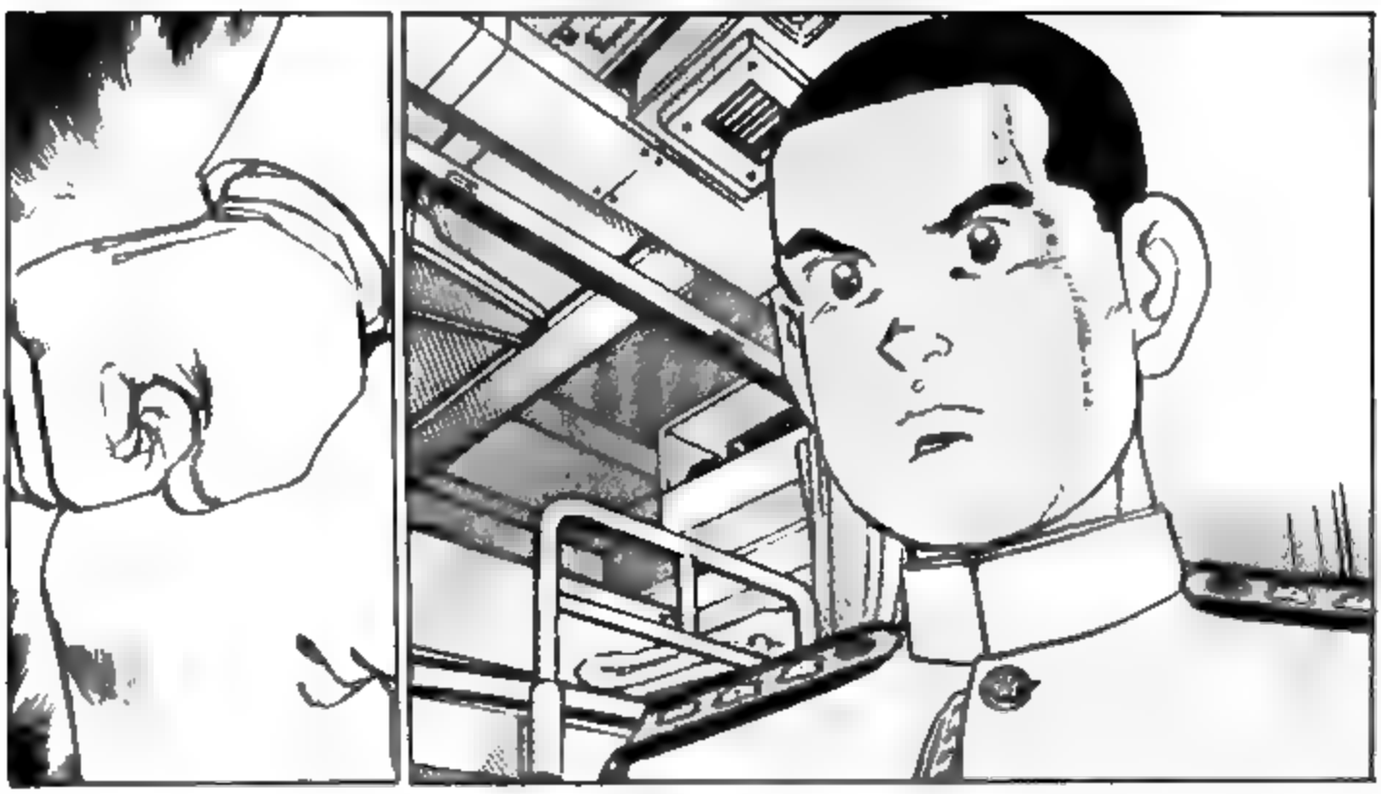
THIS WILL BE THE STARTING POINT TO PROFOUND CHANGES IN THE IMPERIAL NAVY!





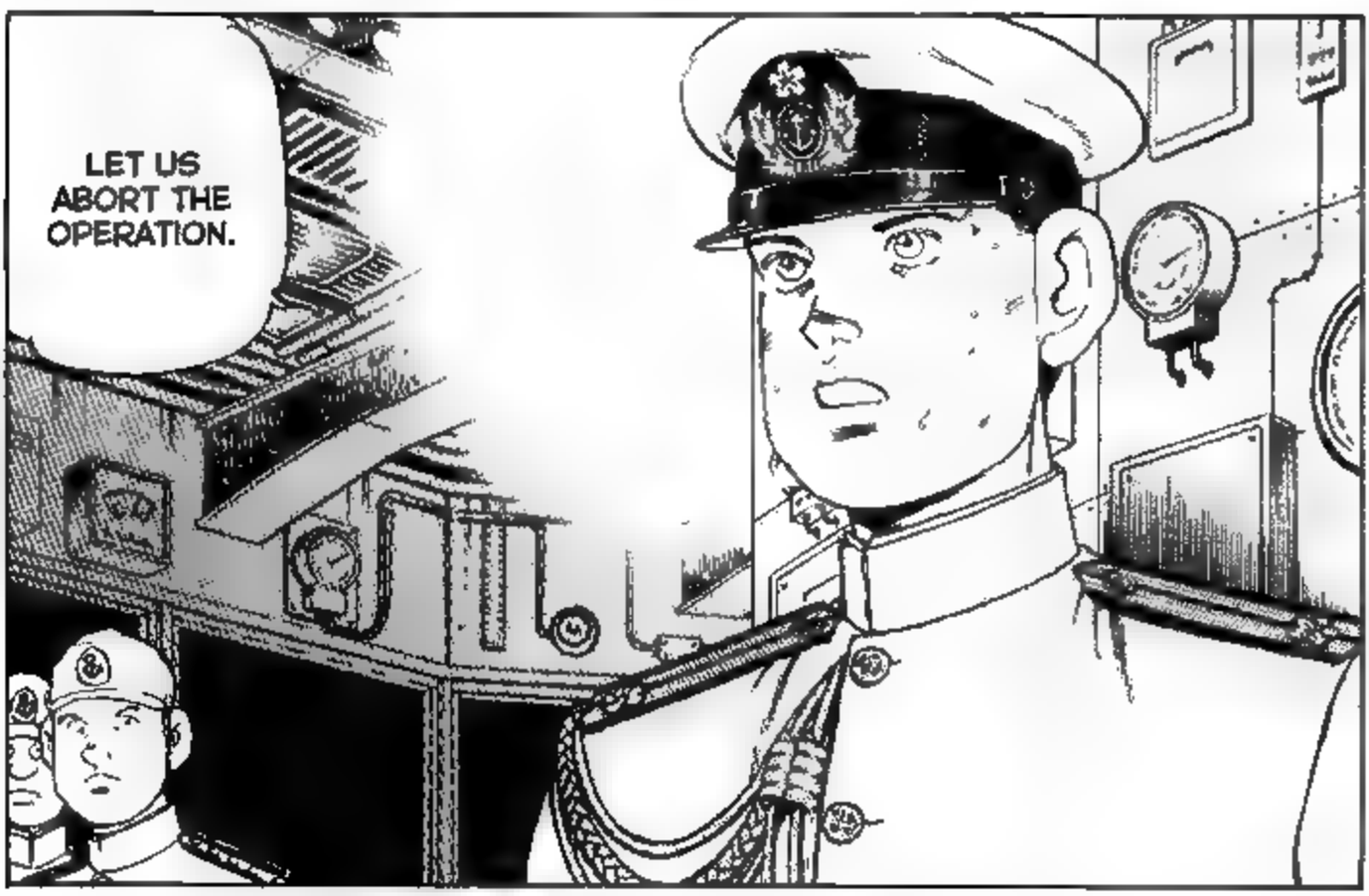
FROM THE EAST, SOME CANNON SHOTS FROM A SHIP...
FROM THE WEST, THE ARROW OF SAGITTARIUS...
REPOR-TING!!!
THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES FROM THE LAST ATTACK!
DURING THE 30 YEARS I'VE SPENT IN THE ARMY...
...I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMETHING AS STRANGE AS THIS...
WHAT'S WITH THIS DAMN JOKE?!
...THAT UNDERSTANDS WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
AMONG ALL THE ALLIED SOLDIERS, IS THERE EVEN ONE PERSON...

THE INTERCEPTION OF THE SHELLS FROM THE YAMATO WITH OUR STANDARD MISSILES WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS.
THIS IS CAPTAIN UMEZU.
ALL THE CREW MEMBERS UNDER THE COMMAND OF COMMANDER KADOMATSU ARE SAFE.
I'M UPDATING YOU ALL ON THE ONGOING OPERATION.



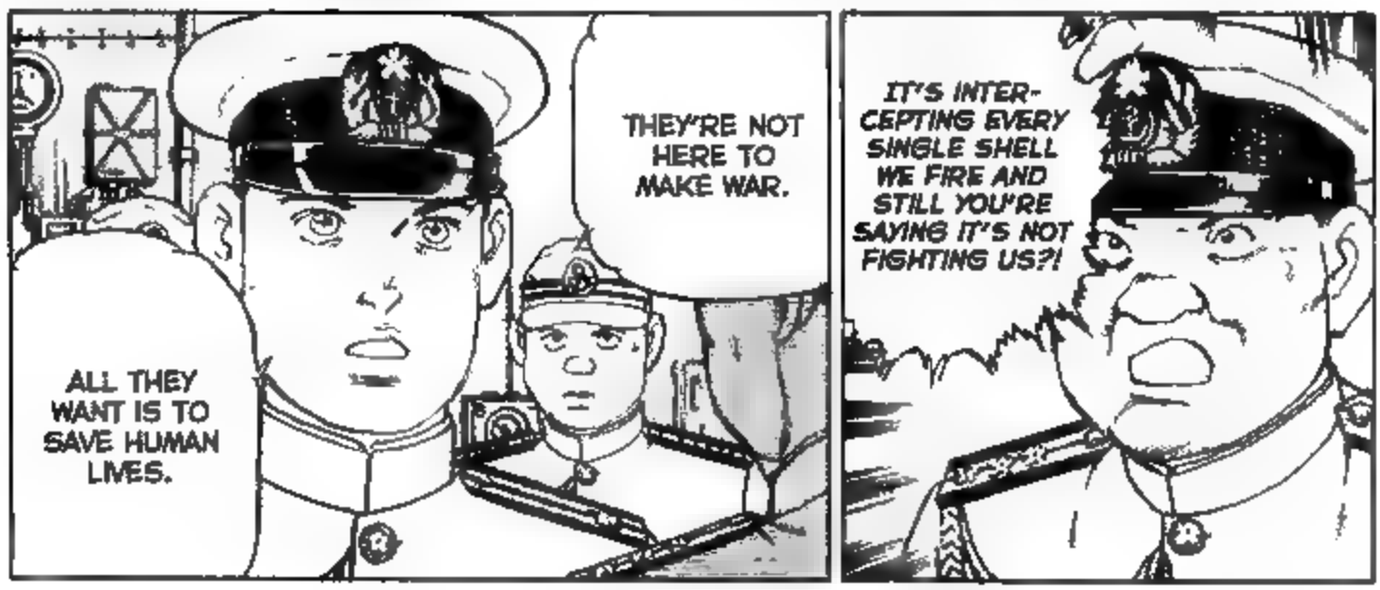
THE CANNONS ARE READY TO FIRE THE SECOND SALVO!
WE'RE WAITING FOR YOUR ORDERS!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE? THE YAMATO...
...FALTERS BEFORE A SINGLE CRUISER...

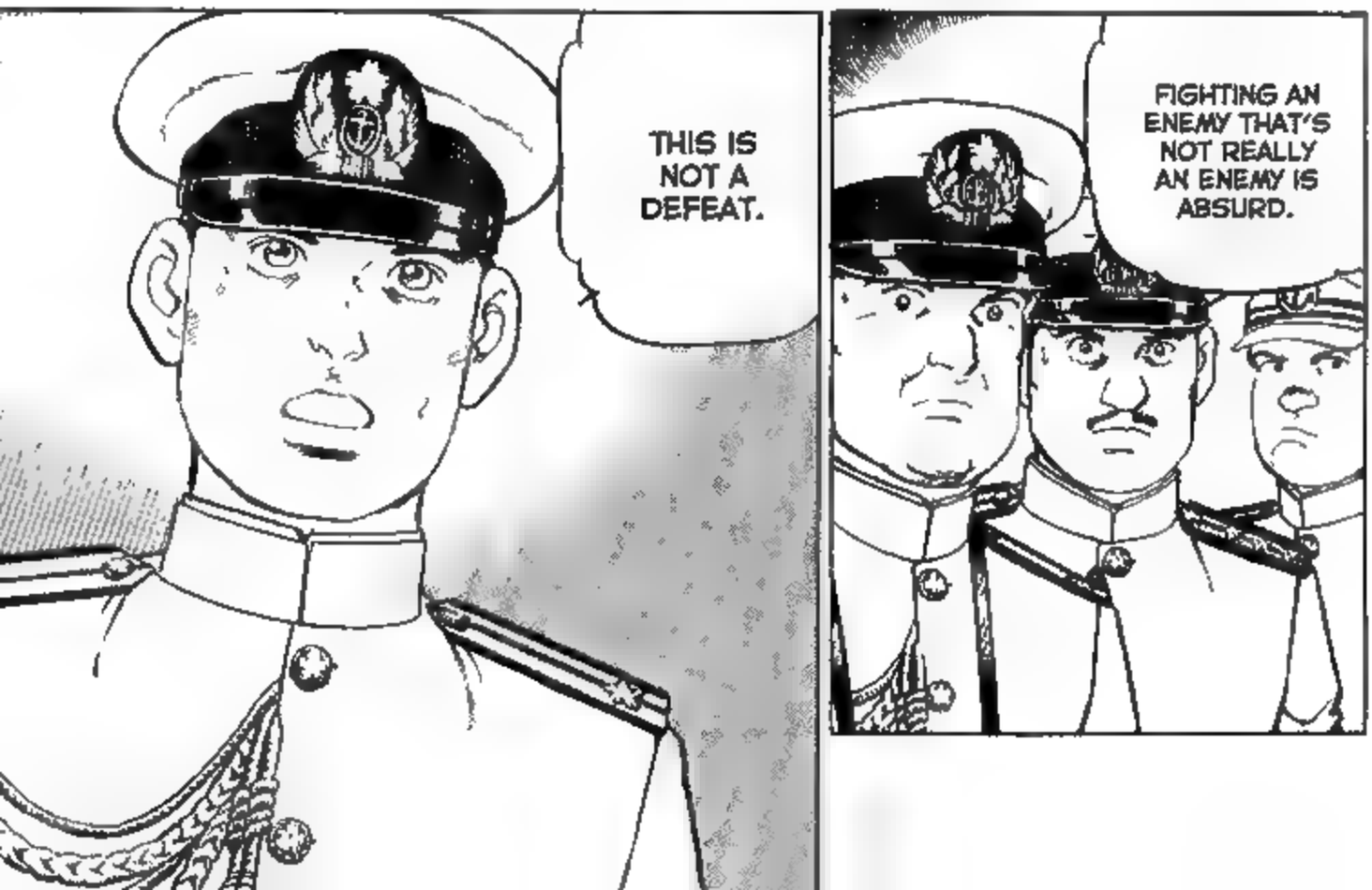
YET IT'S TRUE.


LET US ABORT THE OPERATION.

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE YAMATO! NOT JUST A SIMPLE BATTLESHIP!
RETREAT? NOW? DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?

THE MIRAI DOES NOT WISH TO FIGHT US.
NOT ONLY IS IT THE LARGEST BATTLESHIP EVER BUILT, IT'S ALSO THE SYMBOL OF THE IMPERIAL NAVY!!


ALL THEY WANT IS TO SAVE HUMAN LIVES.
THEY'RE NOT HERE TO MAKE WAR.
IT'S INTER-CEPTING EVERY SINGLE SHELL WE FIRE AND STILL YOU'RE SAYING IT'S NOT FIGHTING US?!

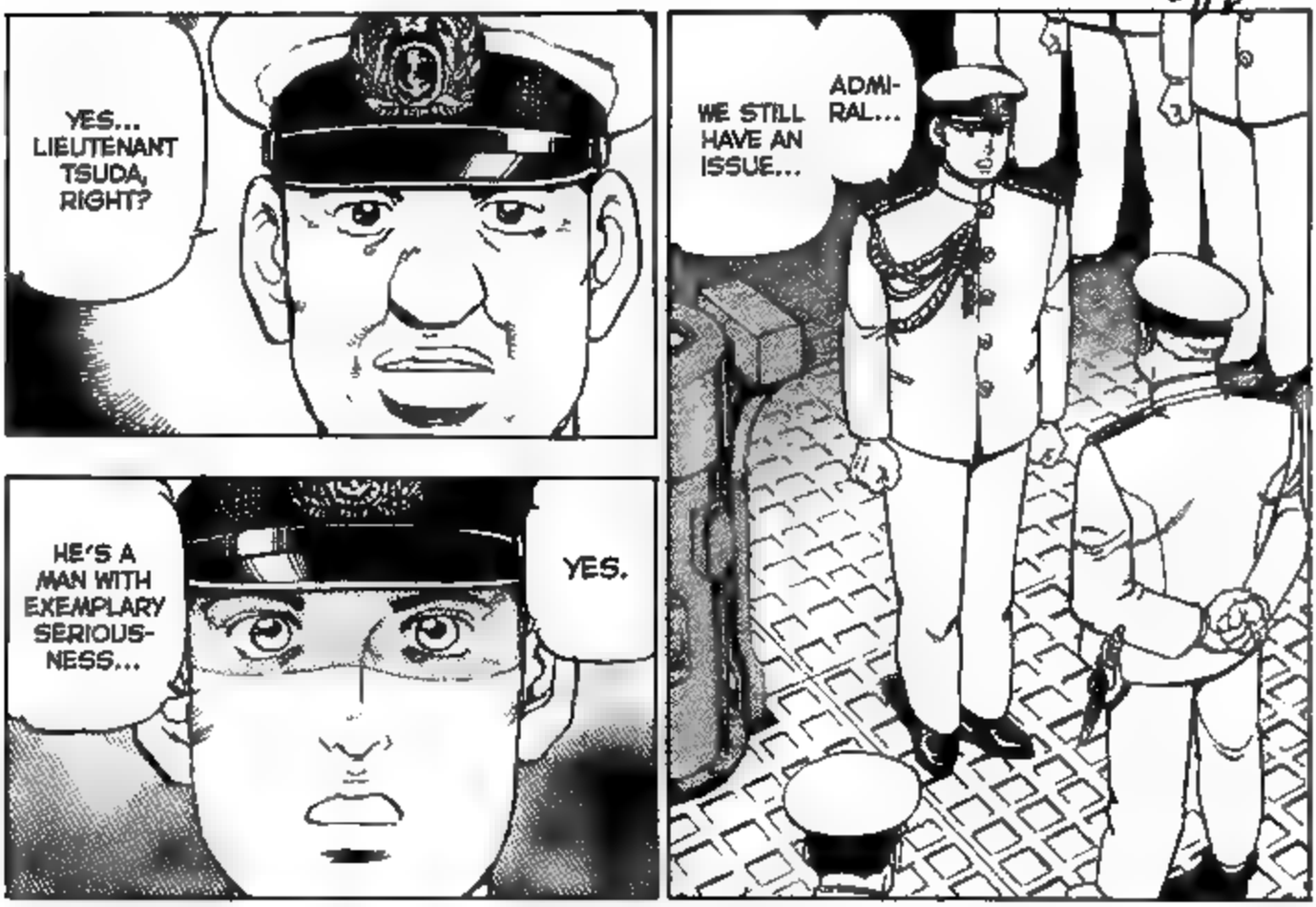

THIS IS NOT A DEFEAT.
FIGHTING AN ENEMY THAT'S NOT REALLY AN ENEMY IS ABSURD.

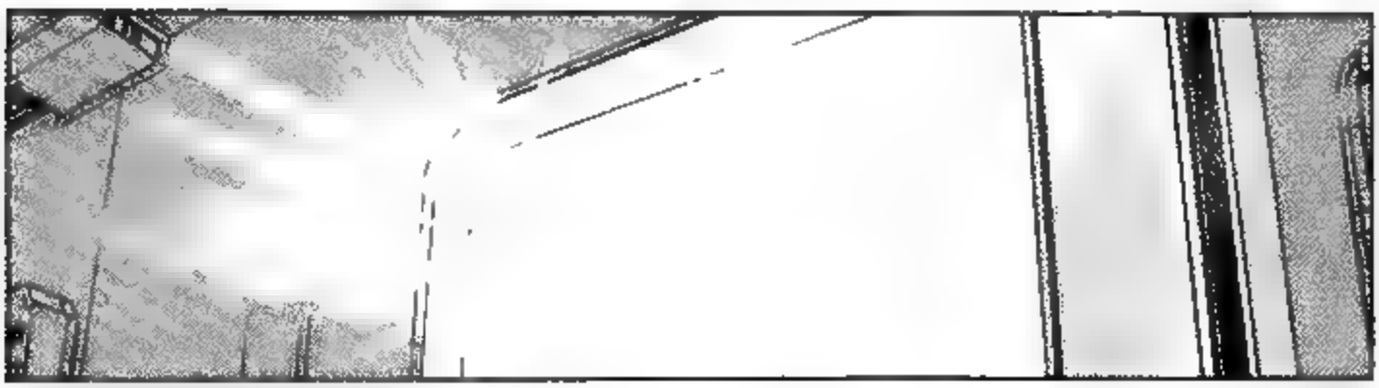
WITH THE THE PASSAGE OF TIME, EVEN A SO-CALLED INVINCIBLE WARSHIP BECOMES OUTDATED... NOTHING IS ETERNAL.

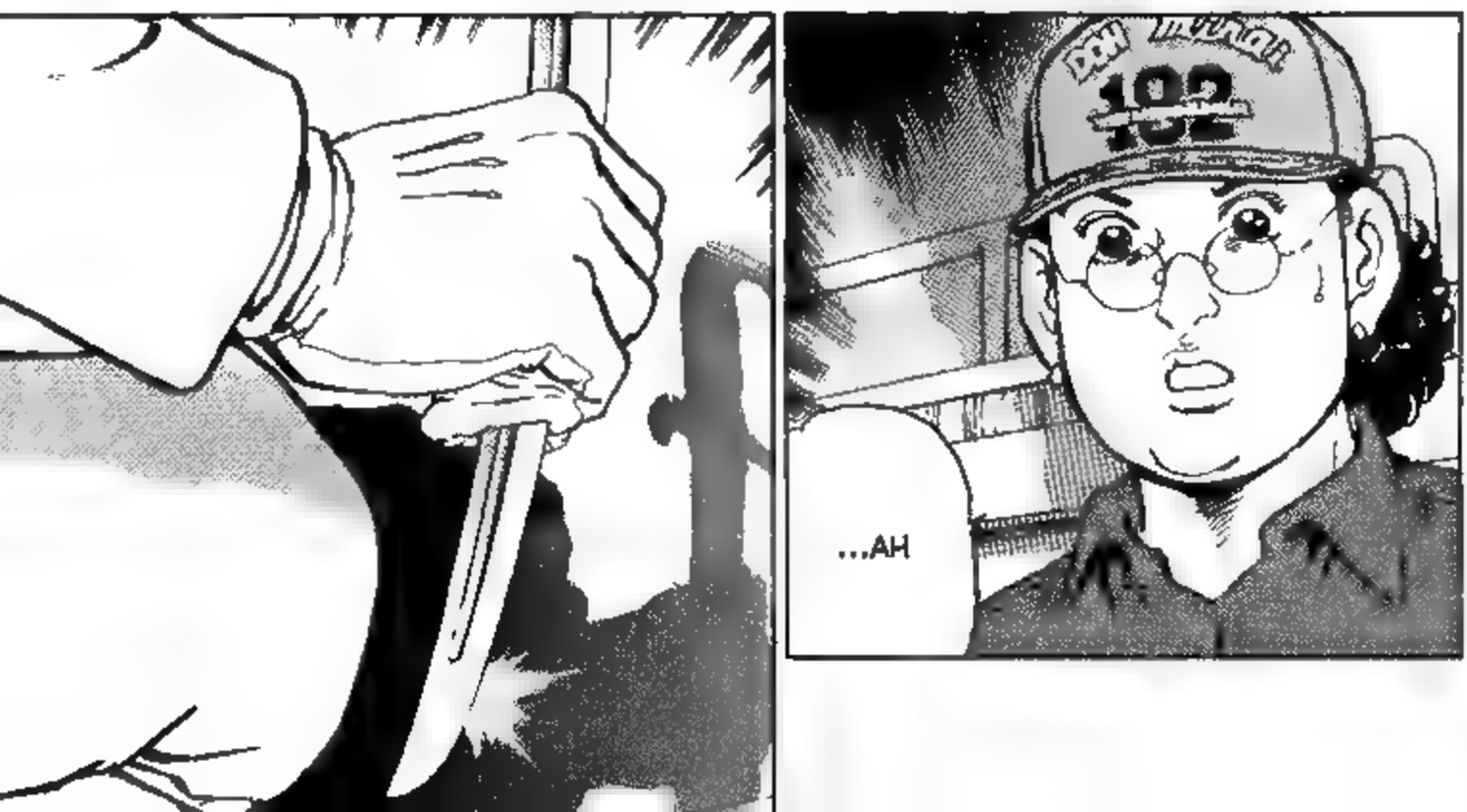
JUST THIS ONE LESSON IS WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD, KUROSHIMA.

YES!

A LESSON IN DEFEAT.
IS THAT NOT WHAT MUST BE ACCEPTED FOR TODAY?

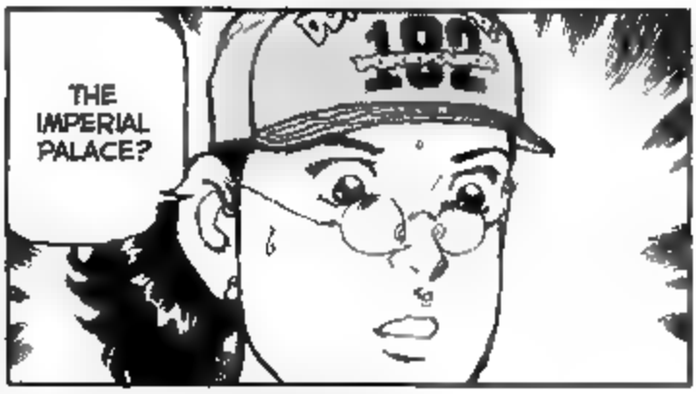

YES... LIEUTENANT TSUDA, RIGHT?
ADMI-RAL...
WE STILL HAVE AN ISSUE...
HE'S A MAN WITH EXEMPLARY SERIOUS-NESS...
YES.




...AH

IN WHAT DIRECTION IS THE IMPERIAL PALACE?!

THIS SHIP IS IN BATTLE, RIGHT?


THE IMPERIAL PALACE?

OH, THAT... I DON'T KNOW AT ALL...
FURTHERMORE, I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY SENSE OF DIRECTION. BUT, THEY SHOULD KNOW AT THE CIC...

THEN I'M NOW A PRISONER OF WAR.
AND IF ITS ENNEMY IS THE YAMATO...
I SHOULD BE READY FOR THIS.
EH! OH! WAIT A MINUTE!
AS A SOLDIER OF THE IMPERIAL NAVY, THERE IS ONLY ONE OUTCOME.
??

I...I'M AFRAID OF DYING.

LAUGH! LAUGH AT ME!

...I'M THINKING ABOUT THE FAMILY I'M LEAVING BEHIND.

INSTEAD OF MY COUNTRY...

I'M... SUCH A PATHETIC MAN...

I'VE JUST REALIZED IT...FOR THE FIRST TIME...

YOU'RE PATHETIC...
WELL...
WHAT?
AND SO WHAT?
THAT'S VERY BRAVE!
THE MAN CLINGING TO HIS LIFE WITH ALL HIS WILL IS MORE COHERENT THAN THE MAN FORSAKING IT.

IT'S NO LONGER A SECRET.

AND HOW CAN A PATHETIC MAN BEST SERVE HIS COUNTRY?!

IN THE ERA WE'RE FROM, EVERYONE KNOWS THAT MEN AREN'T INFALLIBLE.
YOU'VE UNDERSTOOD THAT TODAY BY YOURSELF. THAT'S VERY COURAGEOUS!

WAKE 38/END

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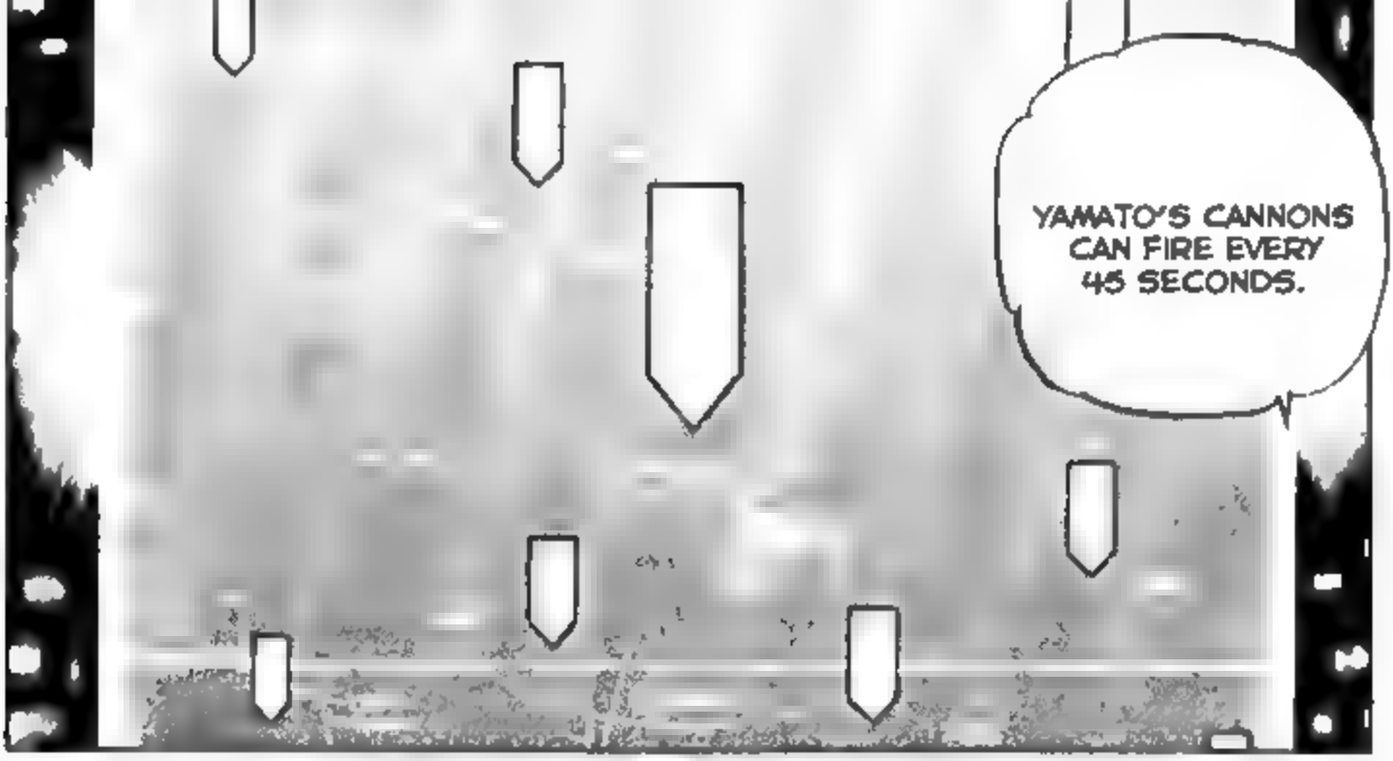
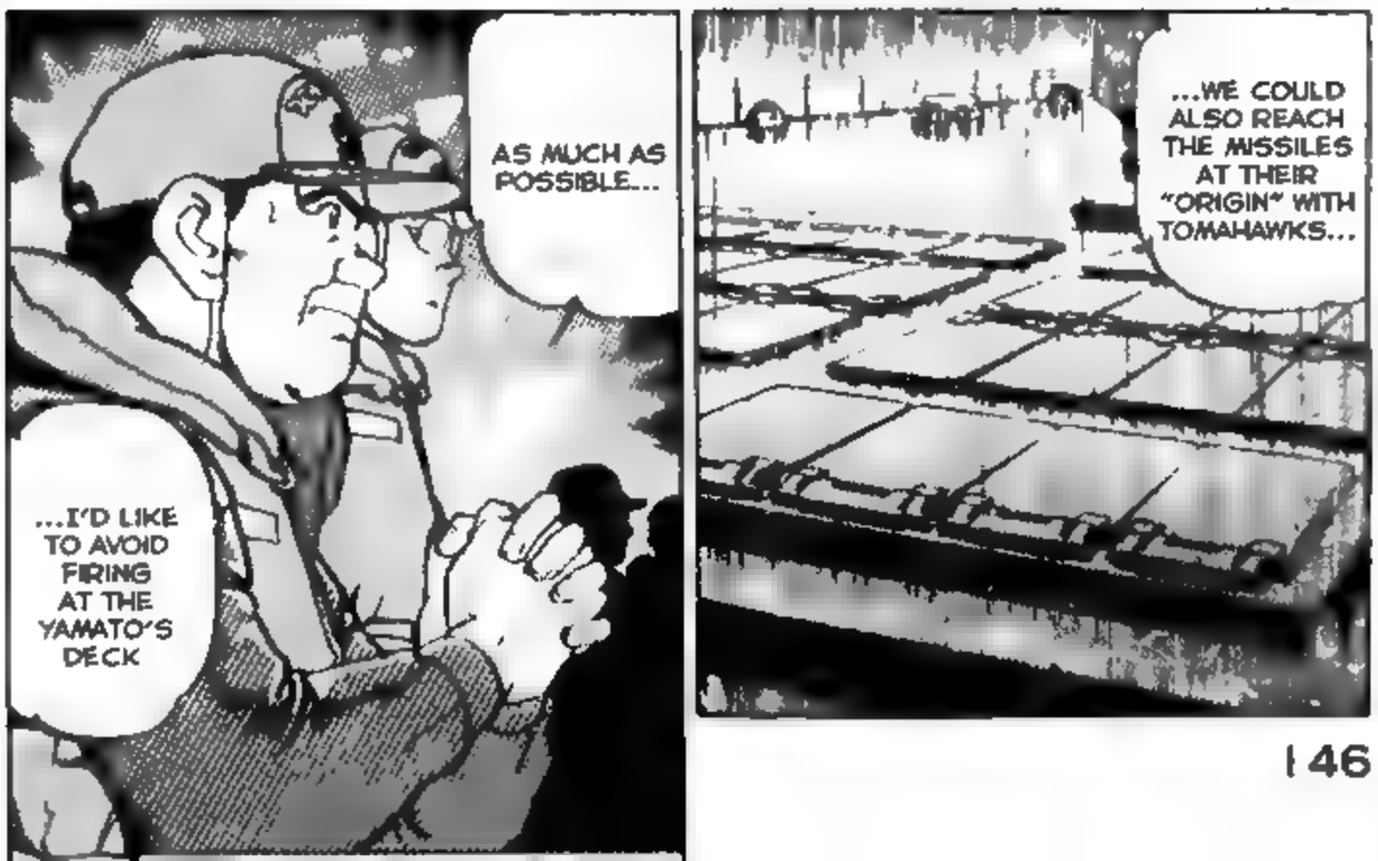
A SHAMELESS E-A RECRUIT PAGE
WE'RE RECRUITING
JAPANESE AND CHINESE TRANSLATORS
OR IF YOU DON'T NO EITHER APPLY TO
EDIT, CLEAN, OR TYPESET
WE WILL TRAIN YOU.
post on our forum or talk to staff on irc.

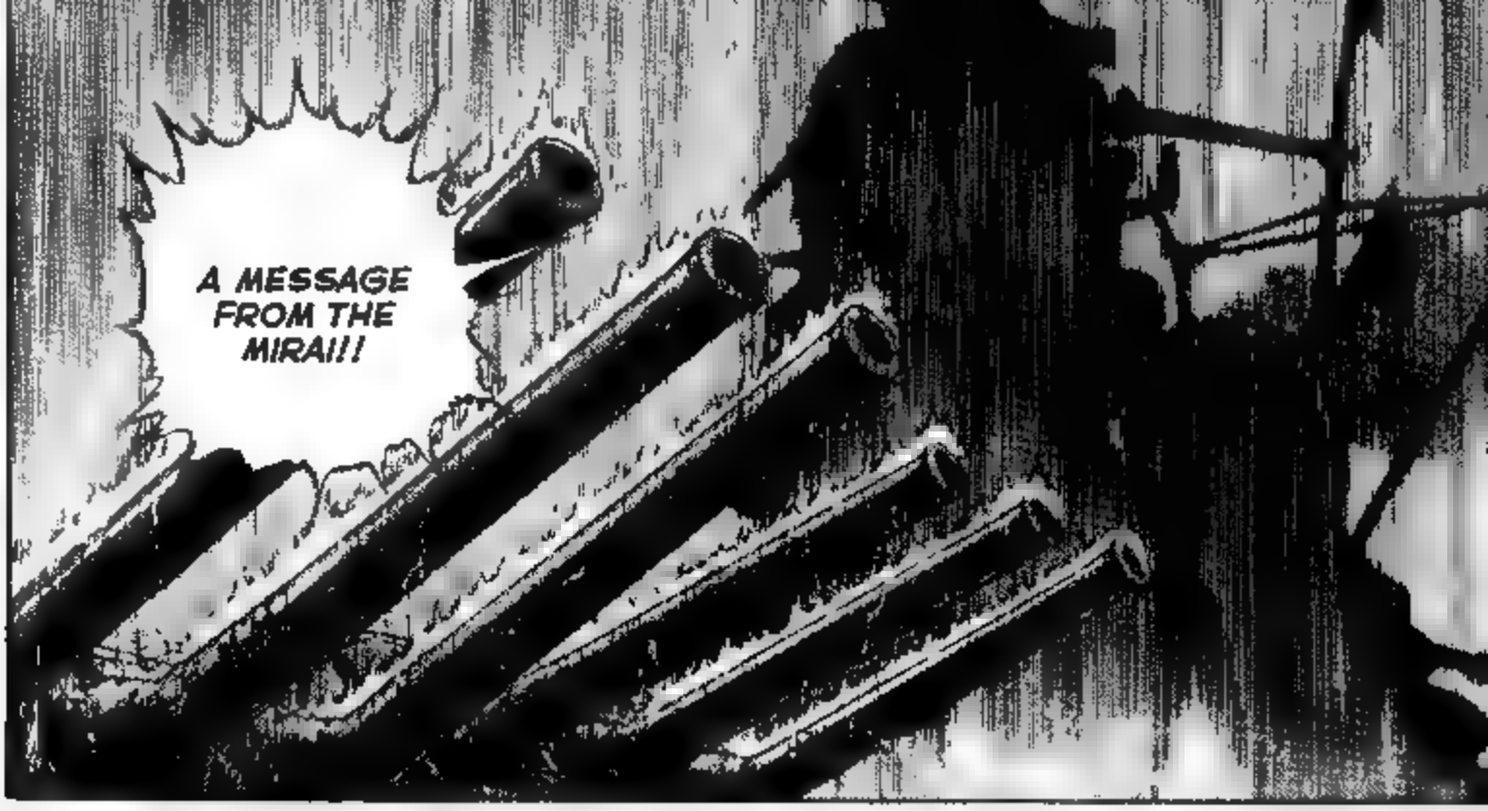
Wake 39: Yamamoto and Umezu


YAMATO'S CANNONS CAN FIRE EVERY 45 SECONDS.

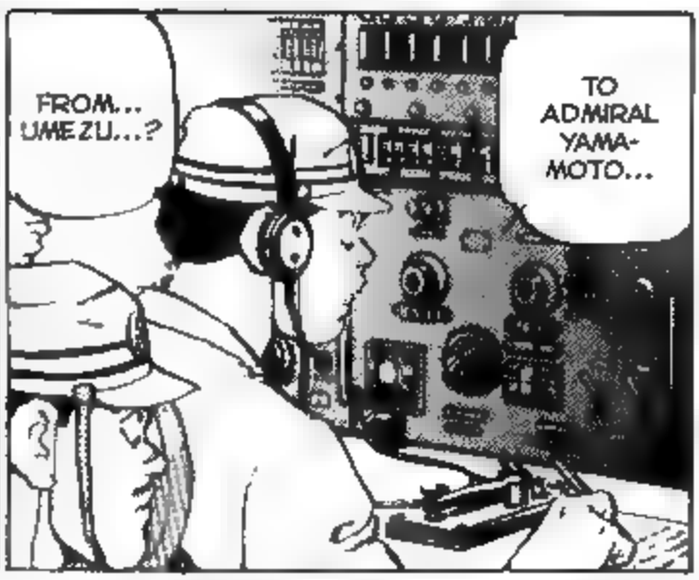
WE'LL STOP THEM WITH STANDARD MISSILES IN ONLY A FEW MINUTES. AND IF THE SHORT RANGED MISSILES WERE TO BECOME INADEQUATE
IN THAT CASE...
...WHEN THE SECOND AND THE THIRD SALVO ARE FIRED...


AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE...
...I'D LIKE TO AVOID FIRING AT THE YAMATO'S DECK
...WE COULD ALSO REACH THE MISSILES AT THEIR "ORIGIN" WITH TOMAHAWKS...

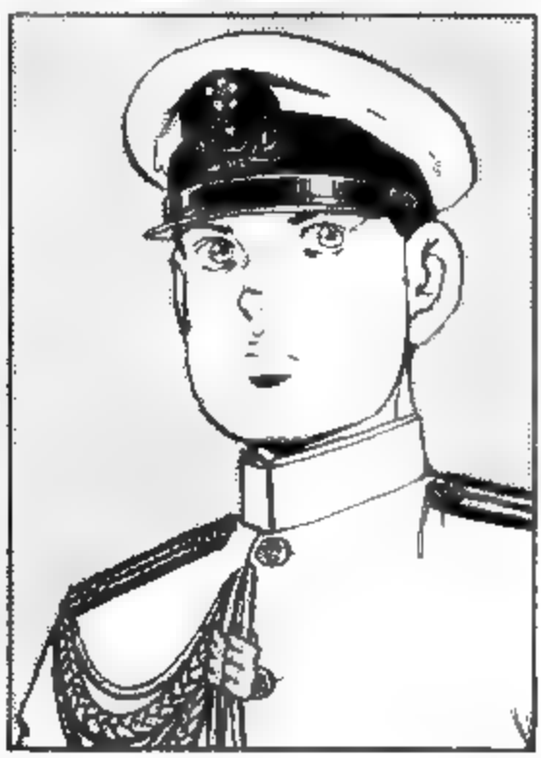
HAVE THEY TAKEN NOTICE OF OUR WARNING?!
SO?
3 MINUTES HAVE PASSED...
WITH A SMART OPPONENT, TALKING IS THE BEST TACTIC.
...THAT ADMIRAL YAMAMOTO IS NOT A STUBBORN SOLDIER FROM THE OLD ARMY, AND THAT HE IS A WISE MAN.
LUCKILY, WE KNOW...
WHAT?

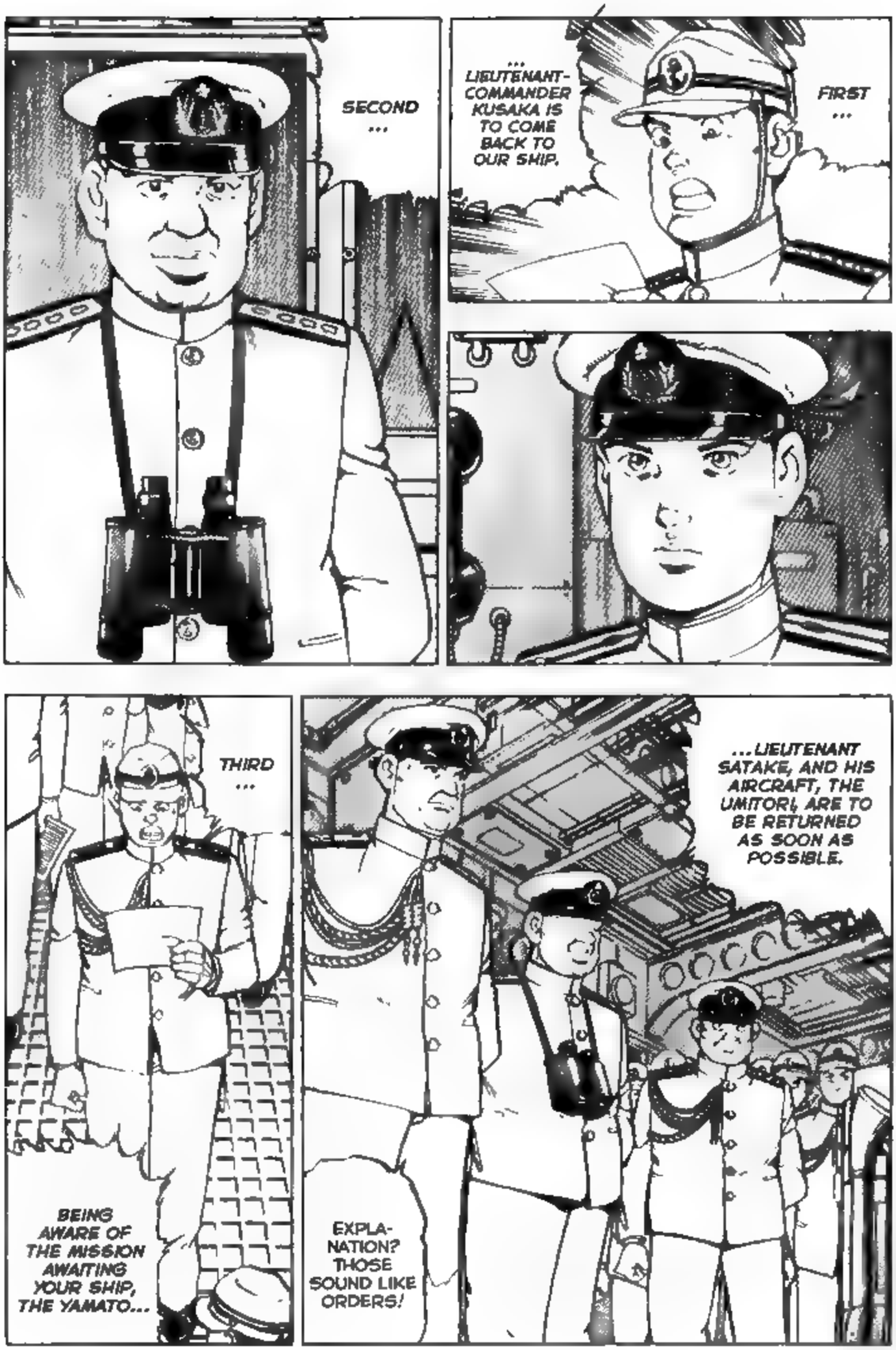

A MESSAGE FROM THE MIRAI!!

I'M READING IT!
*SENDER: CAPTAIN SABURO UMEZU, COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE MIRAI.


FROM... UMEZU...?
TO ADMIRAL YAMA-MOTO...

WE WILL EXPLAIN TO YOU WHAT YOU'LL HAVE TO DO FROM HERE ON!!




FIRST ...
...LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER KUSAKA IS TO COME BACK TO OUR SHIP.
SECOND ...
THIRD ...
BEING AWARE OF THE MISSION AWAITING YOUR SHIP, THE YAMATO...
EXPLA-NATION? THOSE SOUND LIKE ORDERS!
...LIEUTENANT SATAKE, AND HIS AIRCRAFT, THE UMITORI, ARE TO BE RETURNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

CONSIDERING THE DANGER EXPECTED TOMORROW AT 8 PM, WE'RE ADVISING YOU TO WITHDRAW TOWARDS THE NORTH-EAST OF THE ISLAND, LEAVING BEHIND 2 DESTROYERS".
...WE'LL HELP YOU RESCUE THE 2,500 SOLDIERS IN CHARGE OF THE INSTALLATION OF JAPANESE TROOPS ON THE ISLAND OF GUADALCANAL!
END OF MESSAGE !!!

INDEED ...
THAT CAPTAIN UMEZU...
DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THAT HIS NICKNAME WAS "H.RUANDON"...?
THEY HAVE PREPARED US...
...A NICE EXIT...
IN OTHER WORDS, HE'S EXTREMELY CAREFUL, AND HE'LL ALWAYS THINK THOROUGHLY BEFORE ACTING.
THAT MEANS HE'S AWARE OF HIS RESPONSI-BILITIES AND THAT HE'LL TAKE AS MUCH CARE AS POSSIBLE...
MESSAGE FROM YAMA-MOTO...
...TO THE MIRAI!
HMM...
THEN HE'S A PATIENT MAN.

REGARDING THE STATUS OF LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER KUSAKA AND LIEUTENANT SATAKE, WE AGREE ON EVERY POINT.

"TO CAPTAIN UMEZU...
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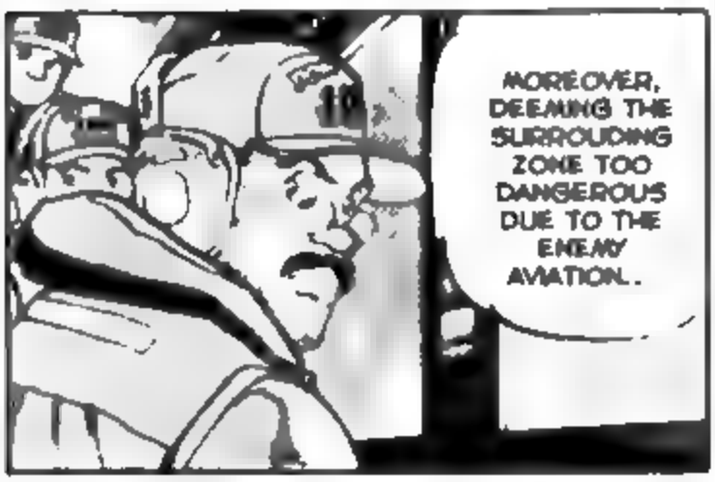
MOREOVER, DEEMING THE SURROUDING ZONE TOO DANGEROUS DUE TO THE ENEMY AVIATION.

IN OTHER WORDS, THEY WON'T GO.
...IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ALLIED NAVY...

WE'LL WITHDRAW TOMORROW TOWARDS TRUK, OUR PORT".

"FINALLY, REGARDING THE RESCUE MISSION YOU ANNOUNCED ..
THIS WAS TO BE EXPECTED: THIS IS NOT AN OPPONENT THAT'S EASY TO MANIPULATE...
砲雷長
...WHICH WILL BE IN CHARGE OF RESCUING TROOPS ON THE ISLAND.
...WE'LL LEAVE BEHIND 2 DESTROYERS AT CAPE ESPERANCE...
YOKOSUKA
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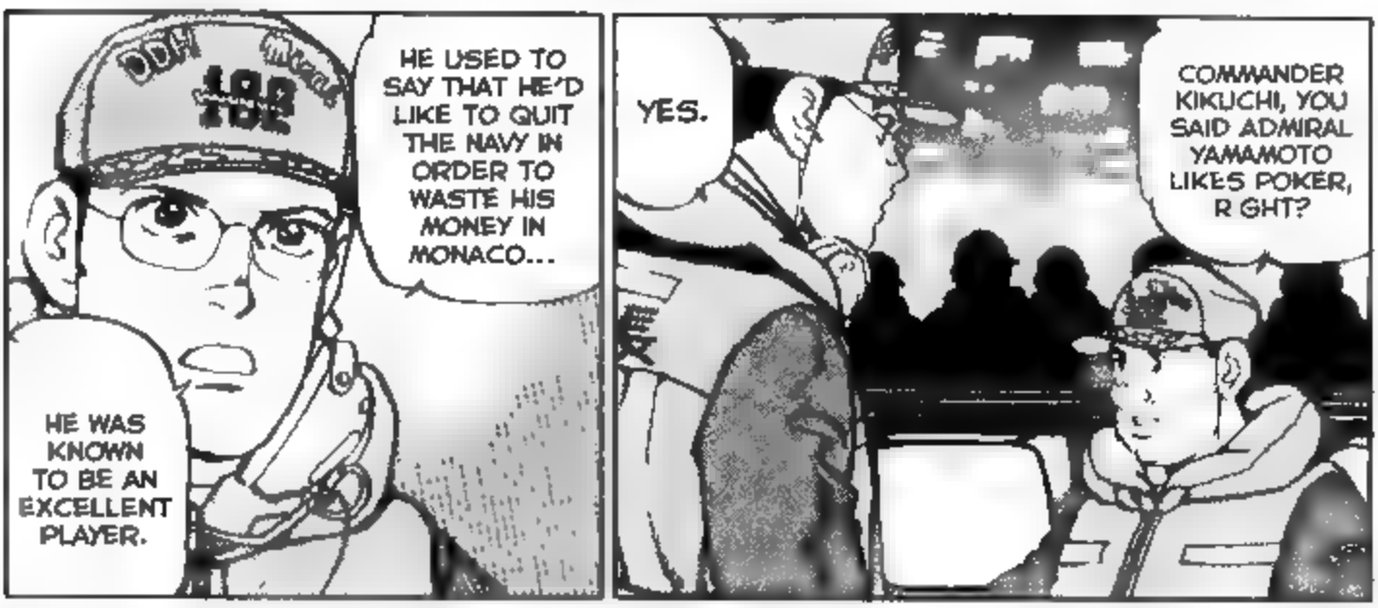
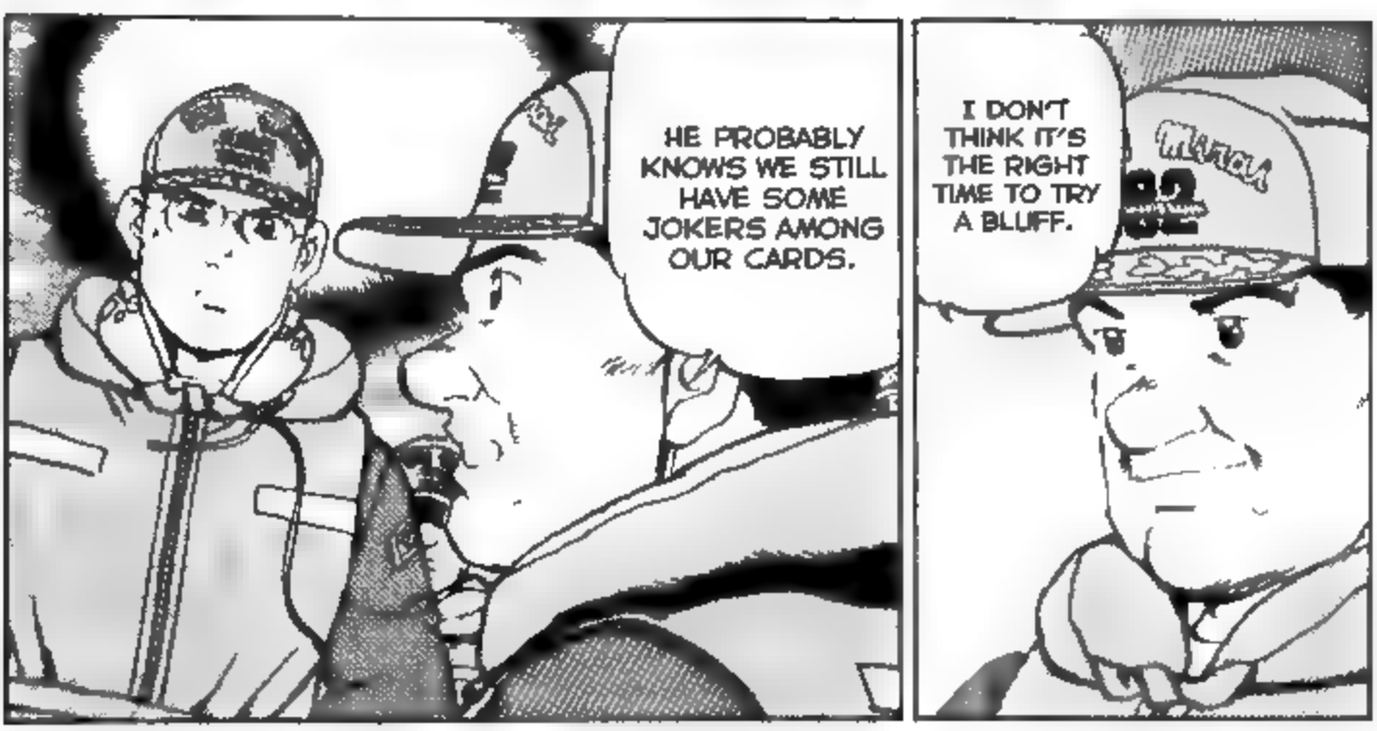
WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONCERN AND ARE PLANNING OUR WITHDRAWAL. ISOROKU YAMAMOTO, ADMIRAL OF THE COMBINED FLEET."

HOW-EVER..
WE HAVE TO WONDER IF THEY TRULY INTEND TO RELEASE LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER KUSAKA, LIEUTENANT SATAKE AND THE UMITORI AS THEY SAID.
OUR ACTIONS MADE THE WHOLE COMBINED FLEET MOVE.
FIRST...
..WE CAN REJOICE THAT THE YAMATO ISN'T CONTINUING ITS ATTACK ON THE US MARINES!


HE USED TO SAY THAT HE'D LIKE TO QUIT THE NAVY IN ORDER TO WASTE HIS MONEY IN MONACO...
HE WAS KNOWN TO BE AN EXCELLENT PLAYER.
YES.
COMMANDER KIKUCHI, YOU SAID ADMIRAL YAMAMOTO LIKES POKER, RIGHT?


HE PROBABLY KNOWS WE STILL HAVE SOME JOKERS AMONG OUR CARDS.
I DON'T THINK IT'S THE RIGHT TIME TO TRY A BLUFF.

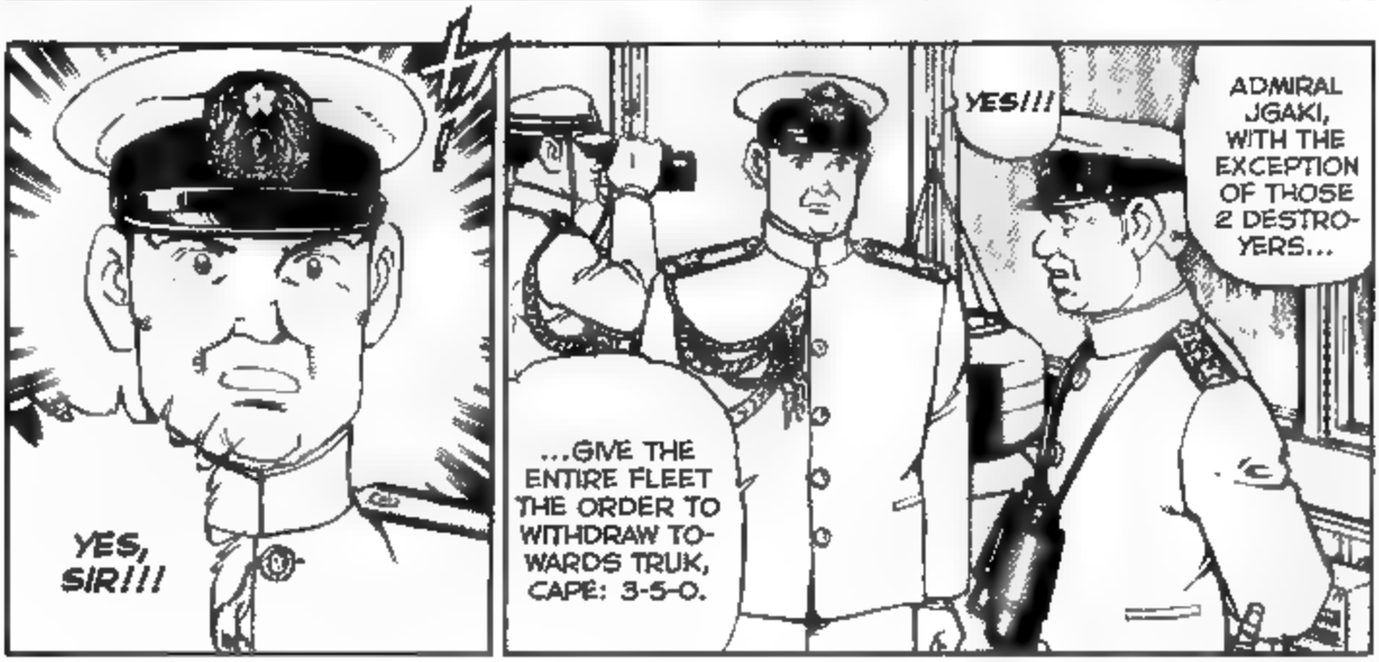
CONTACT COMMANDER KADOMATSU.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF SHOWING HIM SOME OF OUR CARDS WE HAVEN'T PLAYED YET ?
YES, SIR!!!
WE'RE ENTERING THE SECOND PART OF THE PLAN H.S ORDERS ARE TO COME BACK ONBOARD.
WE'RE VERY PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO COLLABERATE WITH YOU."
"MESSAGE RECEIVED.
RADIO! A MESSAGE FOR THE YAMATO!
YES, SIR!!!

KUROSHIMA, YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THIS.

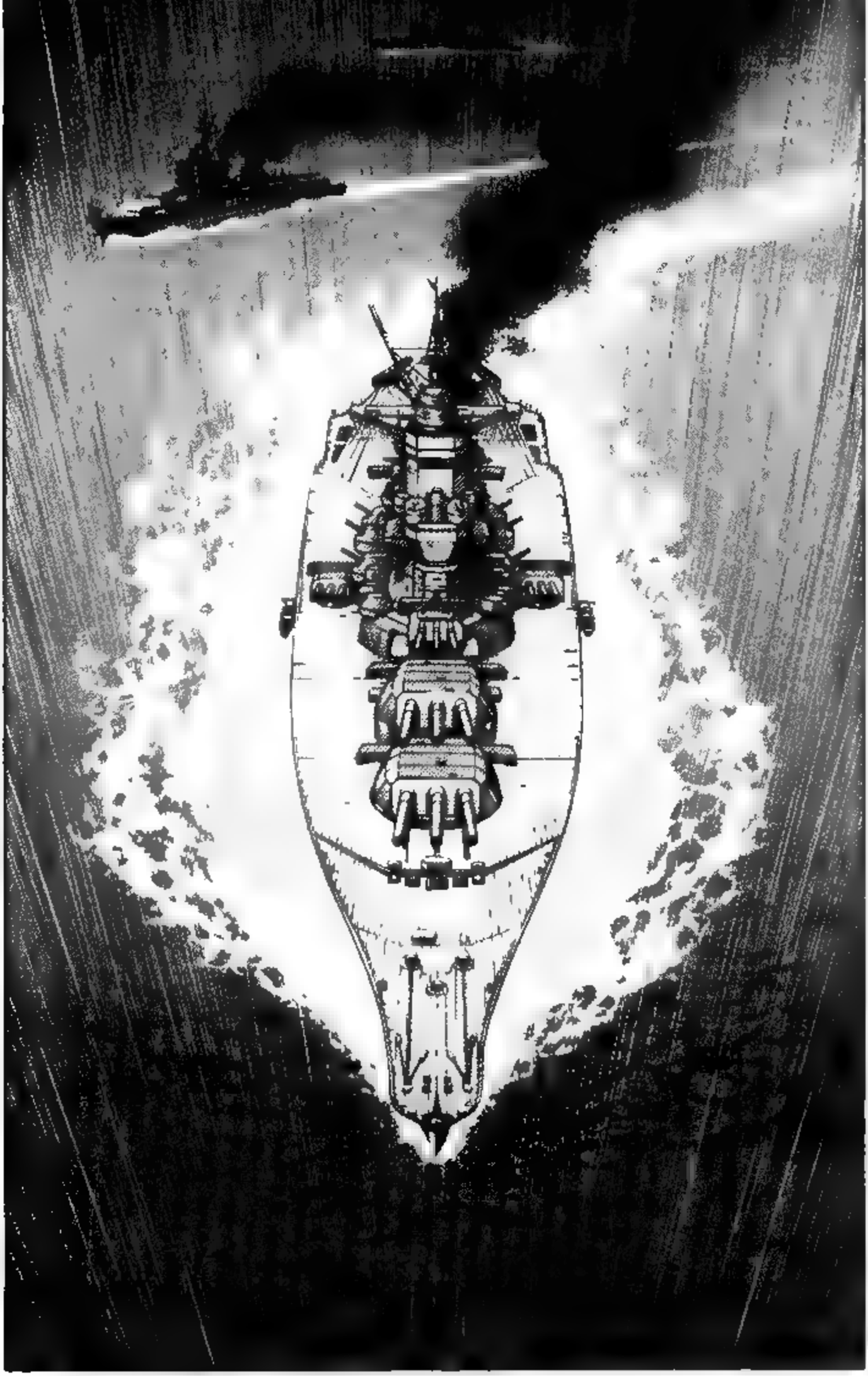
DISMISS!!!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF ORGANIZING THE RESCUE OPERATION.
YES, SIR.

VERY WELL, I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
FOR THE 2 DESTROYERS, I'D SUGGEST TWO FAST SHIPS: THE ASAGUMO AND THE YAMAGUMO.


YES, SIR!!!
...GIVE THE ENTIRE FLEET THE ORDER TO WITHDRAW TOWARDS TRUK, CAPE: 3-5-0.
YES!!!
ADMIRAL JGAKI, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE 2 DESTROYERS...

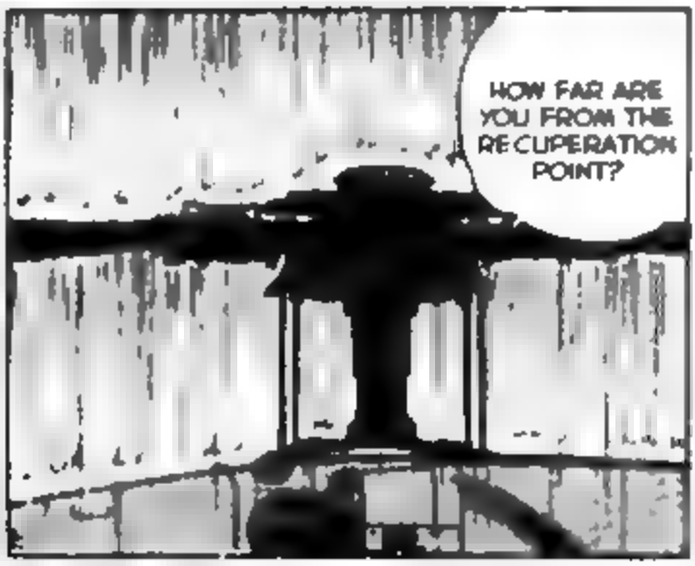
YES!
LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER, YOU'VE MADE AN ERROR IN JUDGE-MENT...
YES...
UNDER-STOOD, SIR.
YOU CAN THANK UMEZU.
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, YOU'LL BE CONFINED TO YOUR QUARTERS.



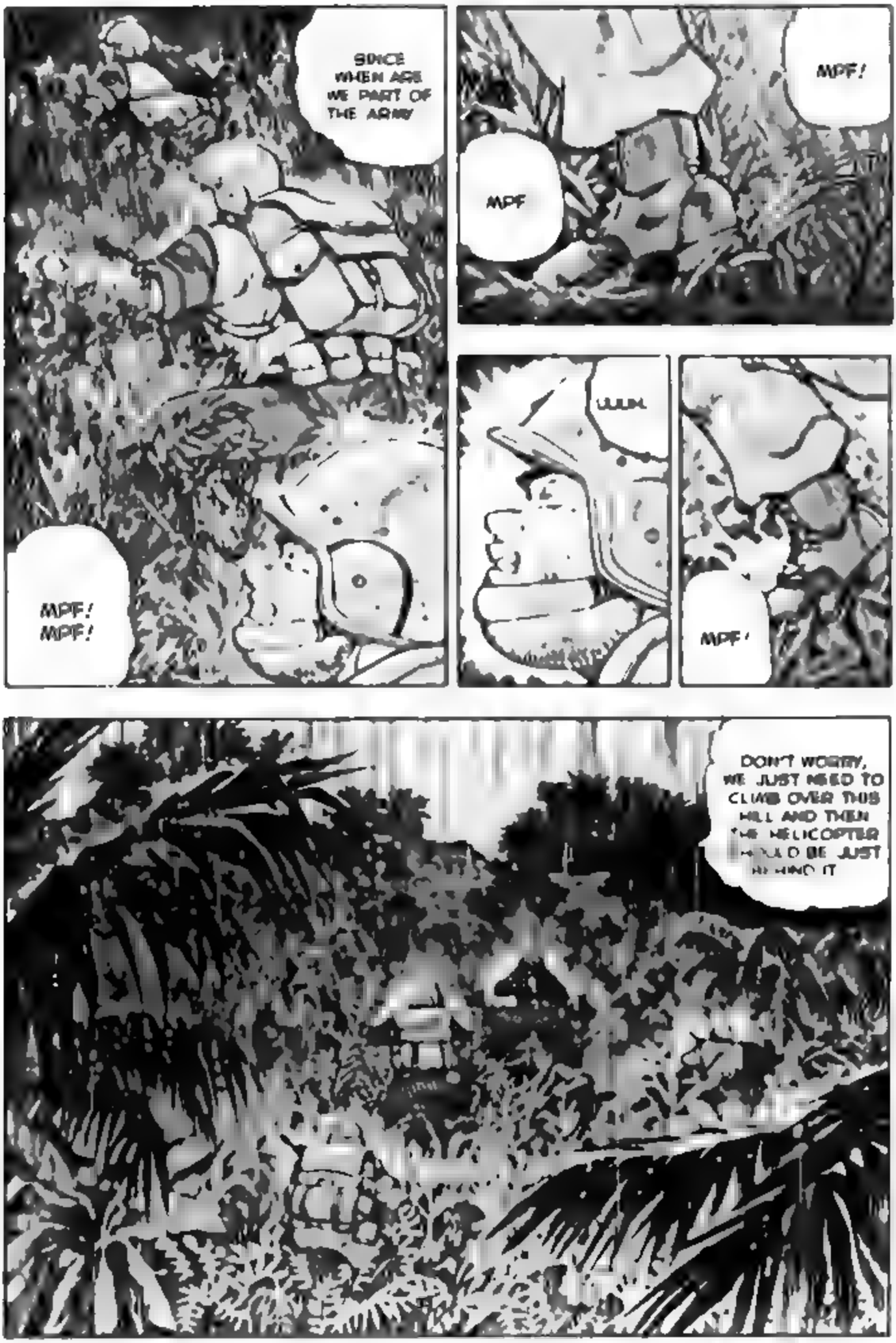
AWAITING YOUR INSTRUCTIONS."
"WE'RE PLEASED AS WELL.
RADIO OFFICER, I'D LIKE TO ADD SOME WORDS TO CAPTAIN UMEZU.
YES...?
SINCE BEFORE JUST AFTER THE END OF THE TRANSMISSION
YES!!!
DUE TO HEAVY STATIC, WE'RE UNABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE OUTSIDE!!
WE DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT IT'S CERTAINLY BECAUSE OF THE MIRAI..

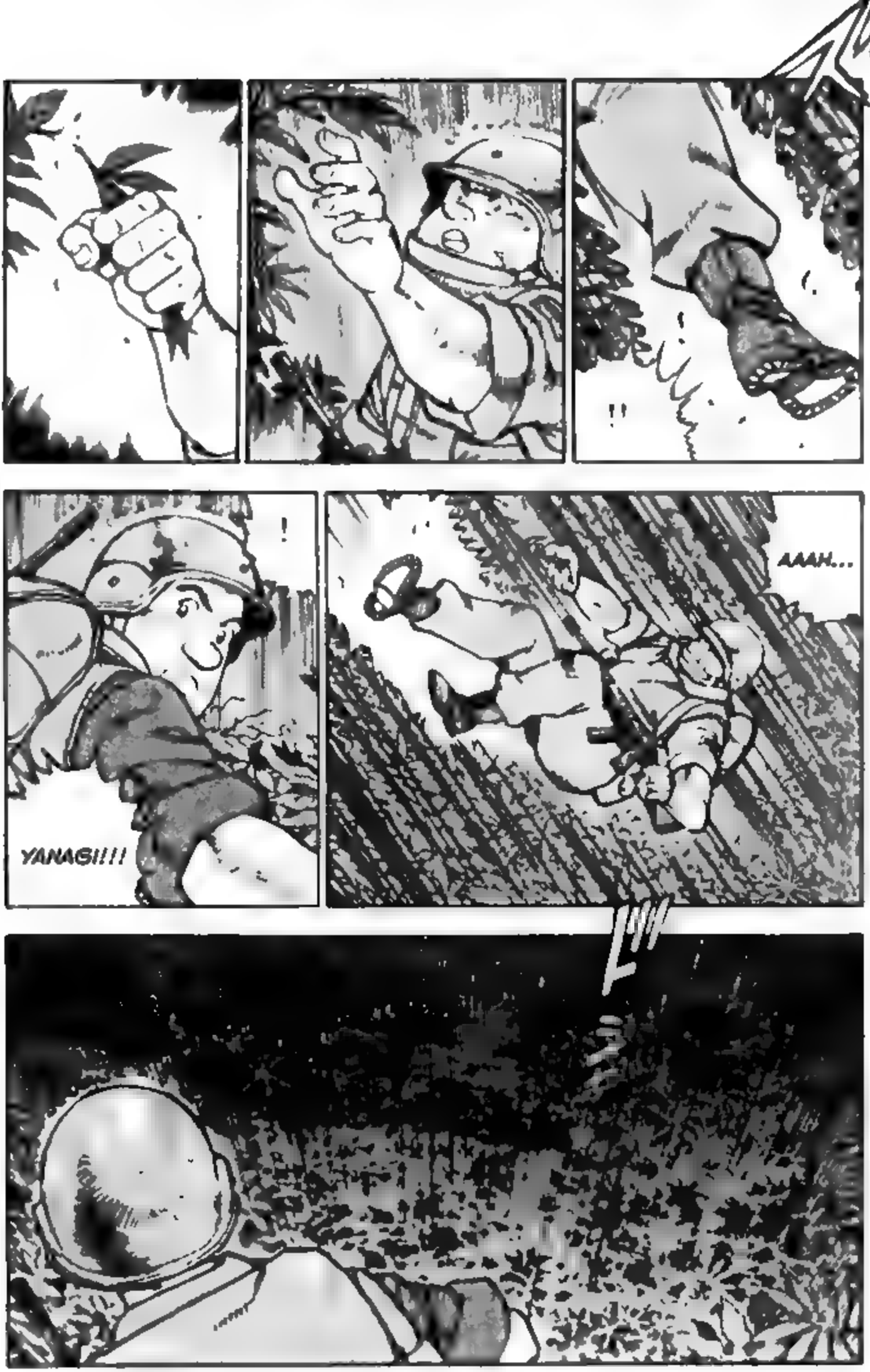
SHIGO TO SECOND IN COMMAND!

THIS IS KADOMATSU. WE STILL HAVE ABOUT A KILOMETER LEFT TO GO
WE'LL BE THERE IN ABOUT 30 MINUTES


HOW FAR ARE YOU FROM THE RECUPERATION POINT?

WE'RE WAITING FOR YOU AS PLANNED


SINCE WHEN ARE WE PART OF THE ARMY
MPF!
MPF!
MPF
UUH
MPF!
DON'T WORRY, WE JUST NEED TO CLIMB OVER THIS HILL AND THEN THE HELICOPTER SHOULD BE JUST BEHIND IT


!
!!
!
.....
YANAGI!!!
AAAH...

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER!
ARE YOU OK?!
COMMAN-DER! WAIT!
YANAGI JUST FELL!
NO... WAIT...

WAKE 39 / END

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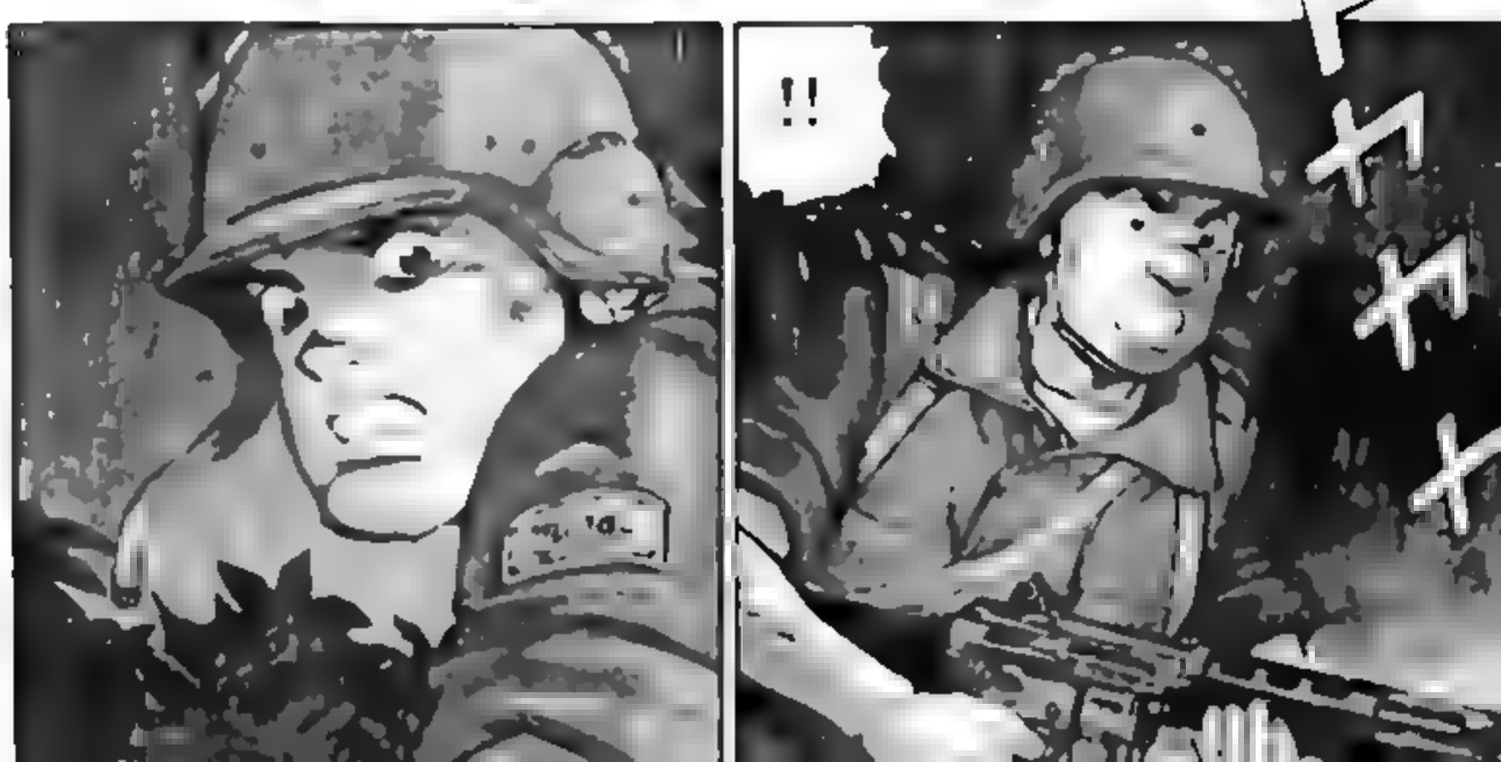
AH...
AH...
AH..
I'M...
I...

...NOT...

JA...
...PA-
NESE!!!


!!

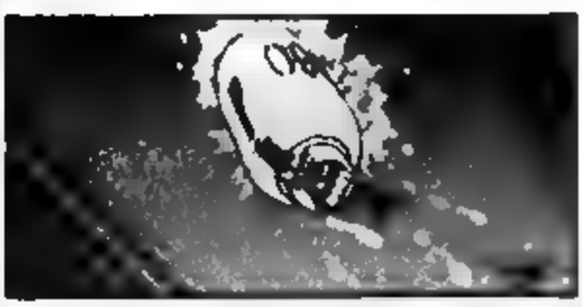
Wake 40: The Living and the Dead

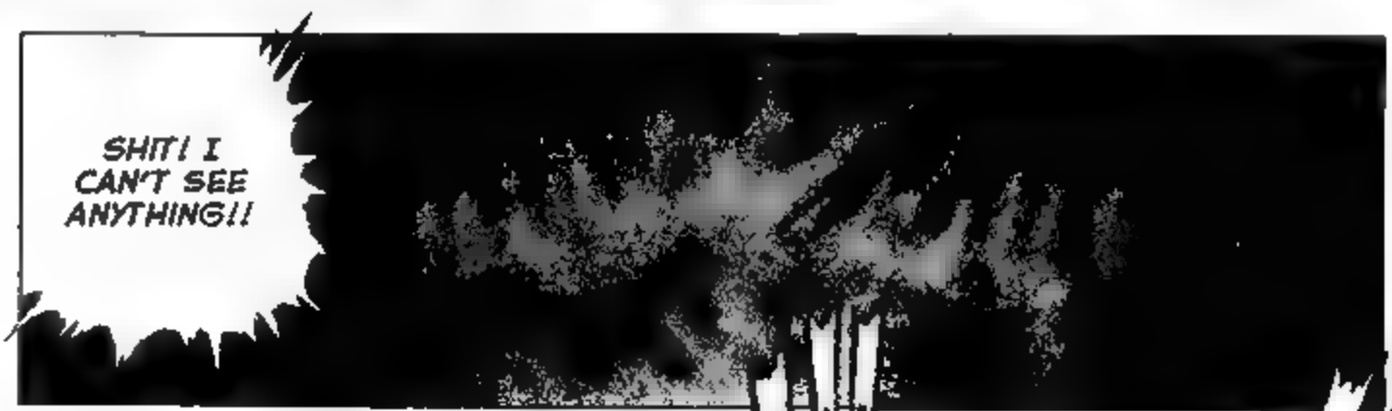
NONE!! GO AROUND TO THE RIGHT!

DEPLOY!

I'M THROWING A FLASHBANG!
YANAGI! KEEP YOUR EYES SHUT!

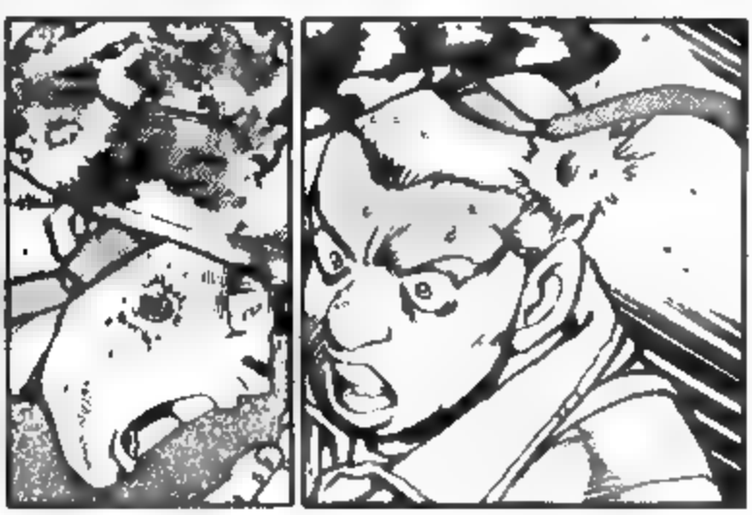
HUH?




SHIT! I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!!

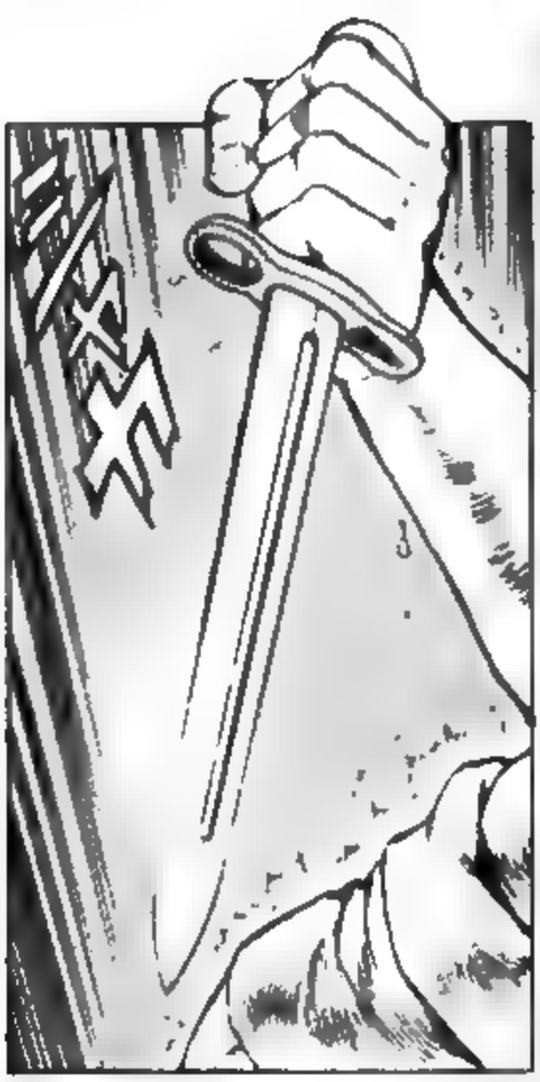
DON'T SHOOT, WE'LL HIT EACH OTHER!!

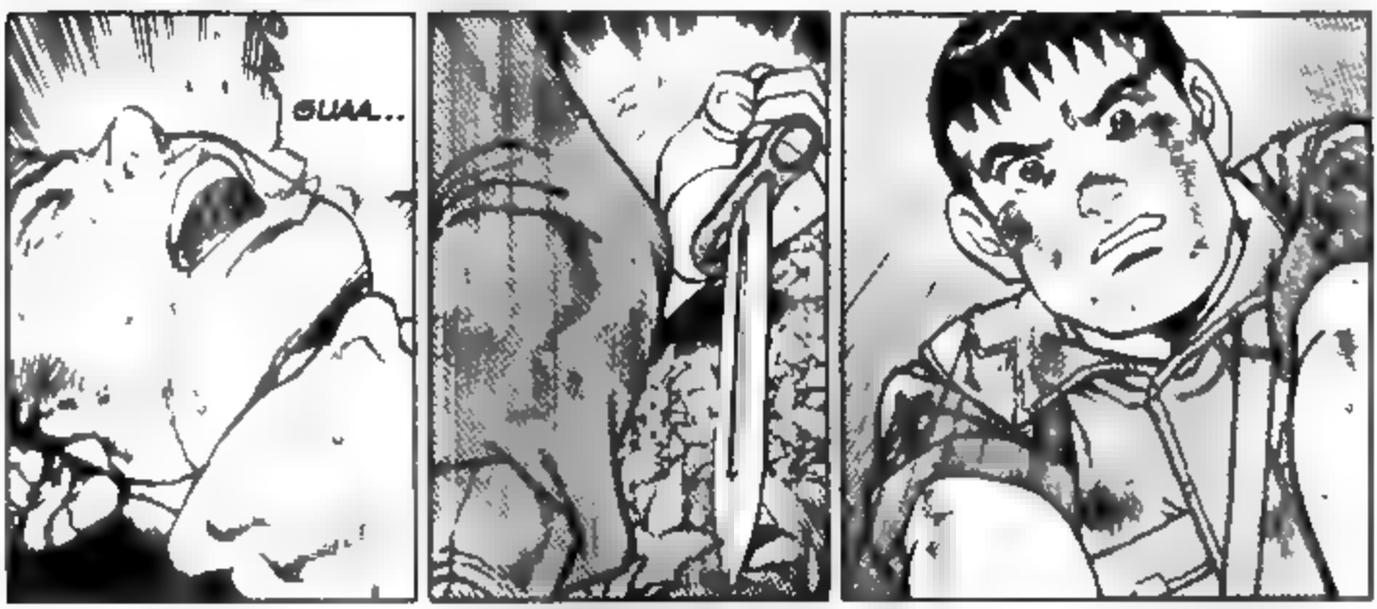
ENNEMY AT 9 O'CLOCK!



GRAA...
KILL
THERE!

It's over!!
Put down
your weapon!
勝負はついた
銃を捨てろ




GUAA...

MPF!
MPF!
MPF!

AND TO SAY WE CAME HERE.
...TRYING TO SAVE THEM...
PFFF
DAMN IT...

I ALREADY SAID THAT
DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION, OUR LIVES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYTHING ELSE

HUH?
AH!

YOU'RE INJURED

YES

YES!
AH...
AND GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF IF YOU WANT TO LIVE!
YES!!!
ENOMOTO, GET HIM THE FIRST AID AND HELP HIM WALK TO THE HELICOPTER!
YOUR SHOULDER, IS IT OK?
I DON'T FEEL ANY PAIN...I JUST FEEL WARM, THAT'S ALL

LET ME SEE.
WHENEVER YOU'RE NERVOUS, YOU WHISTLE...
YOU SHOULD LOSE THAT HABIT
WHAT? ME?
HEY... YOU JUST WHISTLED, DIDN'T YOU?
THE BULLET WENT THROUGH THE SHOULDER, THE BONE ISN'T BROKEN DON'T LET THE BLOOD SPILL
I.. I'M SORRY.

...WE ENDED EIGHT OTHERS...
TO SAVE ONE LIFE...

...THAT THIS IS THE HAND...
ME, I WON'T EVER FORGET.

THAT STOLE YOUR FUTURE.
WAKE 40 / END

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#E-A@ ON IRCHIGHWAY
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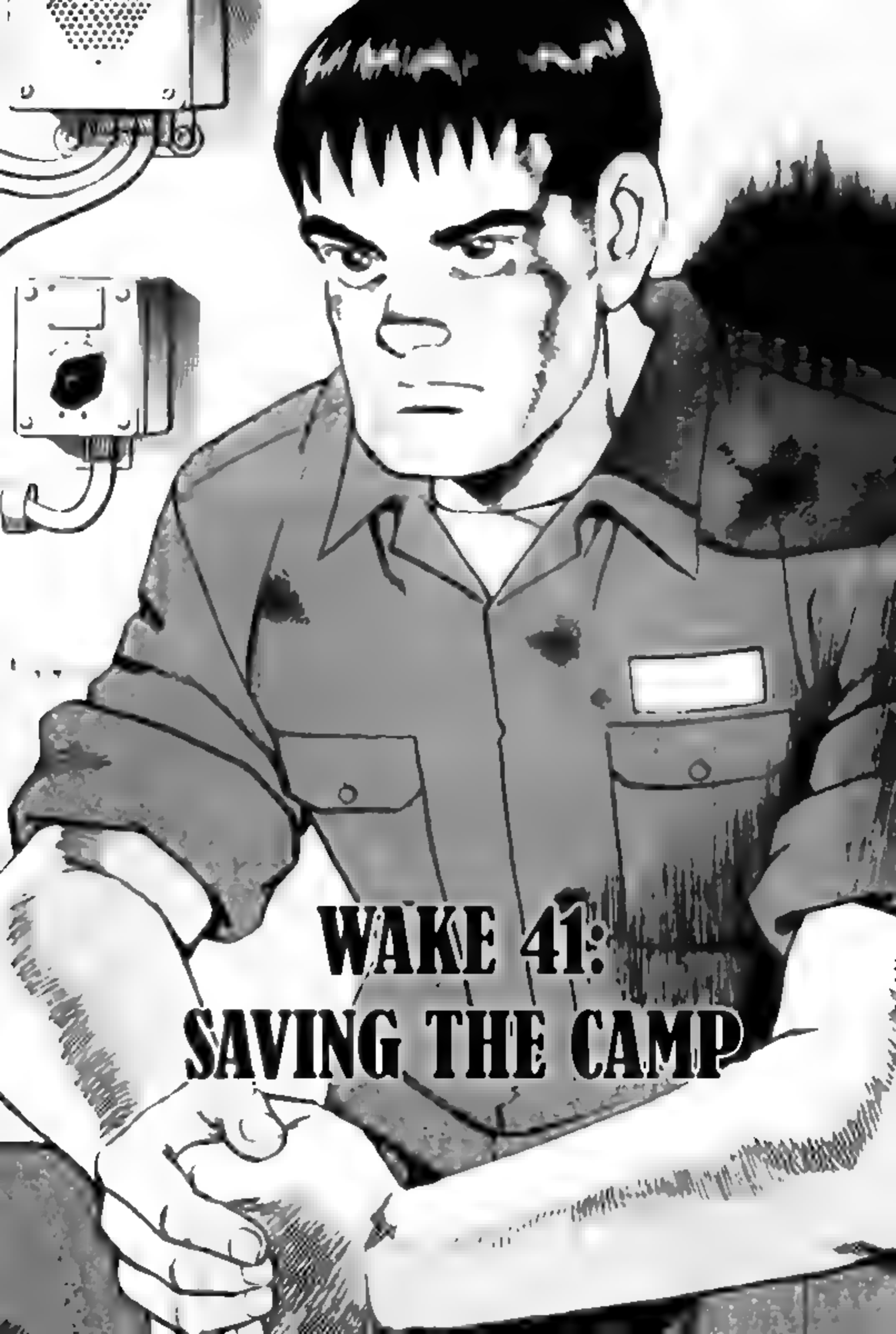


WAKE 41: SAVING THE CAMP

GHUURGH...

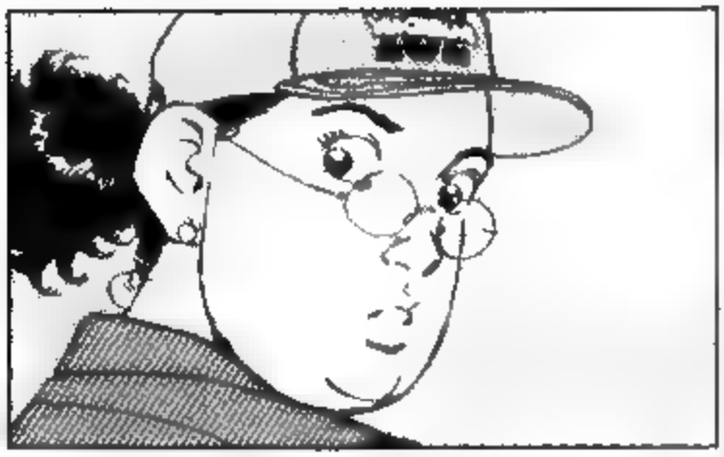
N...
NO...

WHY DO I HAVE I DIE HERE...?

W..WHY

NO...

I DON'T WANT TO DIE!!

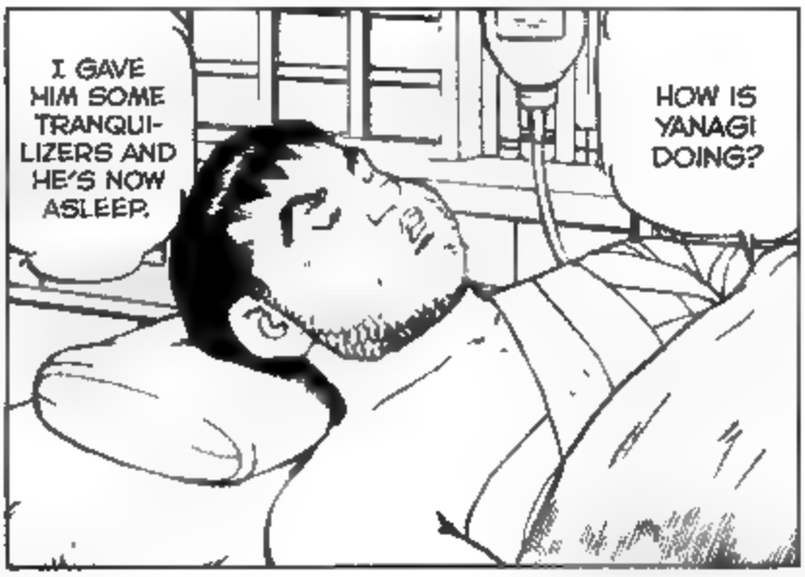


AAAH!!!

HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!

HOLD ON FOR A BIT, I'LL GIVE YOU A NUTRITION SHOT.
AH... OUCH!
COMMANDER KADOMATSU, I SEE YOU'RE HUMAN AFTER ALL - YOU SLEPT A WHOLE DAY.

FORTUNATELY THE BULLET MISSED HIS VITAL ORGANS, BUT I'M AFRAID THE WOUND MIGHT GET INFECTED. IT'D BE BEST TO MOVE HIM TO A BETTER FACILITY...


I GAVE HIM SOME TRANQUILIZERS AND HE'S NOW ASLEEP.
HOW IS YANAGI DOING?

HE MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT ADDING LIEUTENANT TSUDA TO THE TEAM THAT WILL BE GOING TO RESCUE THE SOLDIERS ON THE ISLAND...
CAPTAIN UMEZU ASKED THAT YOU SEE HIM AS SOON AS YOU WAKE UP.
COMMANDER...
...AND NOT ME...?
BY THE LOOKS OF IT, LIEUTENANT KATSURAGI WILL BE LEADING THE GROUP.
WE STILL NEED FIVE MORE MEMBERS, THOUGH...
KATSURAGI'S IN CHARGE...

AH...COM-MANDER!
I'LL BE BACK.
YOUR SHOT!!!
THAT WAS SOME PRETTY ROUGH HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT, EH?
YOUR EYES SAY IT ALL.

THEY AREN'T ENEMIES.
THEY'RE AMERICANS.
NATURALLY, IT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN ACTUAL GROUND COMBAT, ISN'T IT?
SO? HOW DOES IT FEEL, TAKING DOWN AN ENEMY THAT STOOD UP BEFORE YOU?
IN TIMES OF PEACE, MAYBE, BUT...
FOR A JOURNALIST LIKE ME, THIS IS LIKE A GOLD MINE!!
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE ISLAND THAT SAW THE WORSE FIGHTING OF THE WHOLE PACIFIC WAR. THE TRAGIC ISLAND THAT TURNED THE TIDES OF THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES AND JAPAN!
I WANT TO WITNESS WHAT REALLY HAPPENED!
I WANT TO SEE IT WITH MY OWN EYES!
COMMANDER...
IF YOU GET BACK ON THE GROUND, GIVE ME PERMISSION TO ACCOMPANY YOU AS A WAR JOURNALIST!

HIS LIFE WOULD BE SO MUCH EASIER IF HE JUST ADMITTED THEY WERE ENEMIES...
DEFINITELY TOO SERIOUS...
YES, BUT...
YOU'RE TIRED...
I WOULD RATHER YOU TAKE A BREAK.
CAPTAIN! SENDING EXPERIENCED MEN TO THE ISLAND WOULD BE MORE PRUDENT.

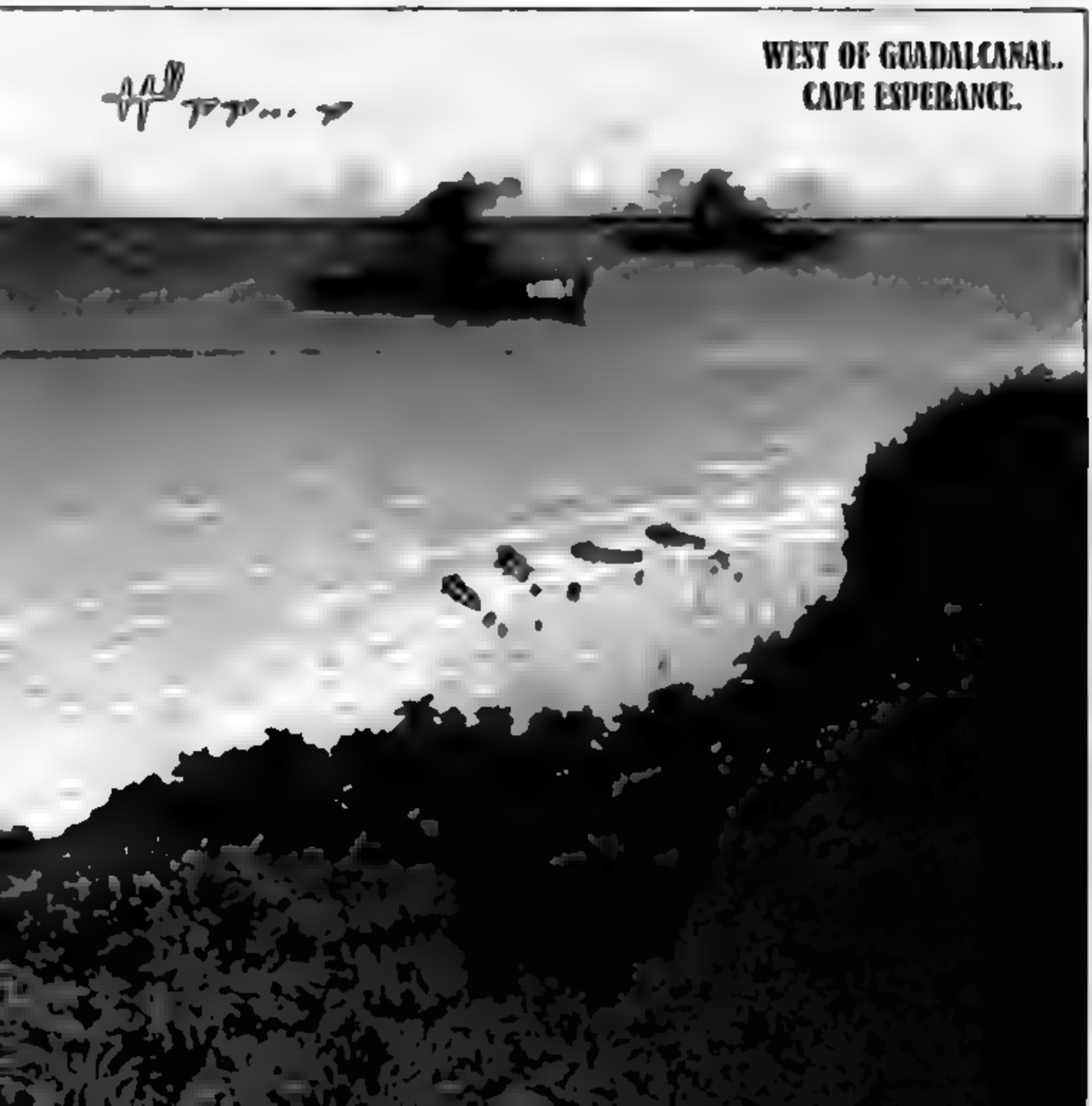
CAP-
TAIN!!!

THEN WHAT OF THE 2,500 MEN FROM THE CAMP RIGHT NOW WHO ARE RELENTLESSLY SCOURING THE ISLAND TO PROTECT THEMSELVES, WITH NEXT TO NOTHING TO EAT?
THEY MUST BE TOTALLY EXHAUSTED.

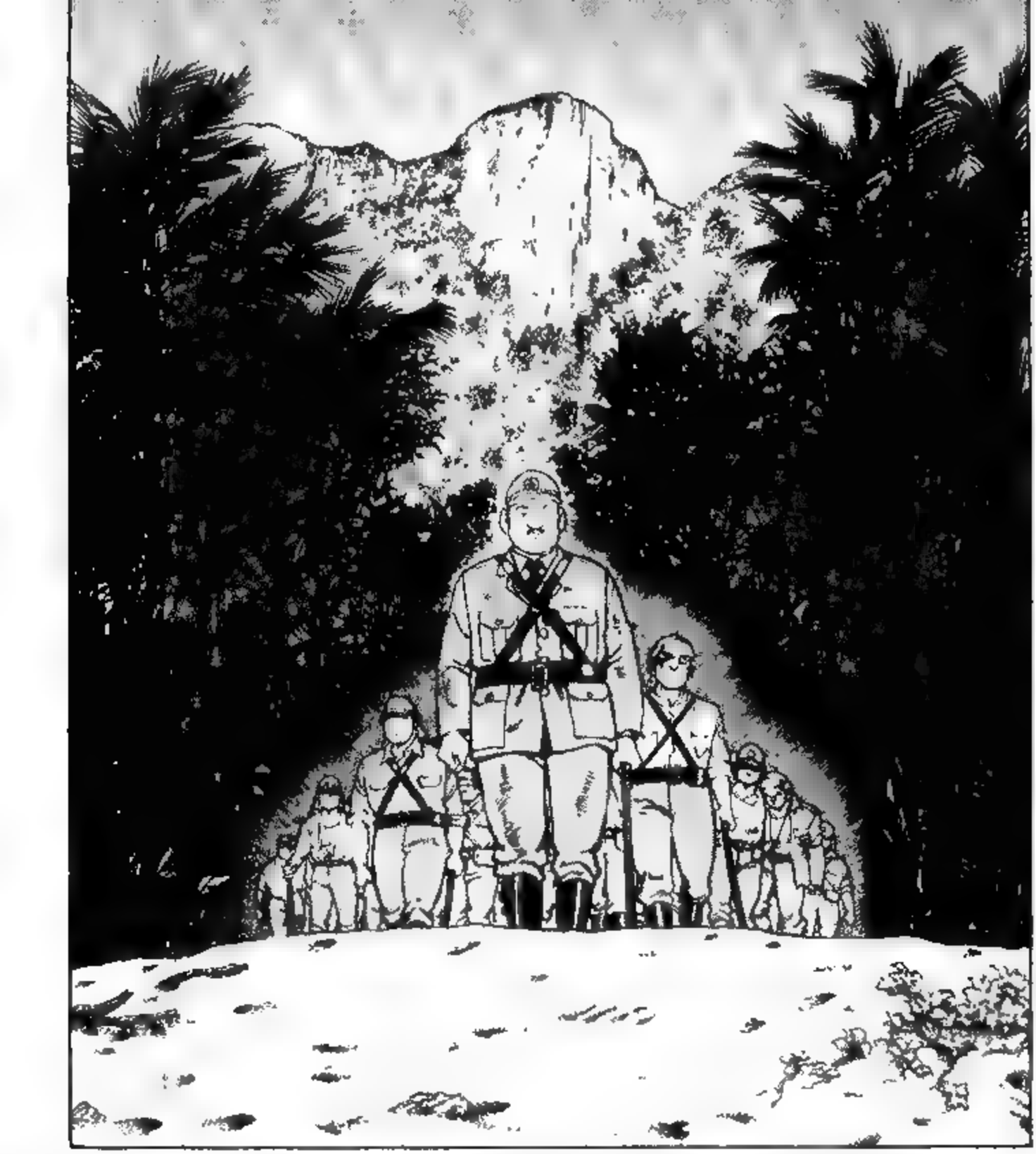
I APPRE-
CIATE YOUR
CONCERN,
BUT...

ALL
RIGHT, I
UNDER-
STAND.
I'LL ENTRUST
THIS MISSION
TO YOU.

THINK OF
YANAGI AND OF
OGURI...THINK OF
THE AMERICAN
SOLDIERS...I HAVE
THE DUTY TO
ENSURE SUCH
HORRORS DO
NOT HAPPEN
AGAIN!

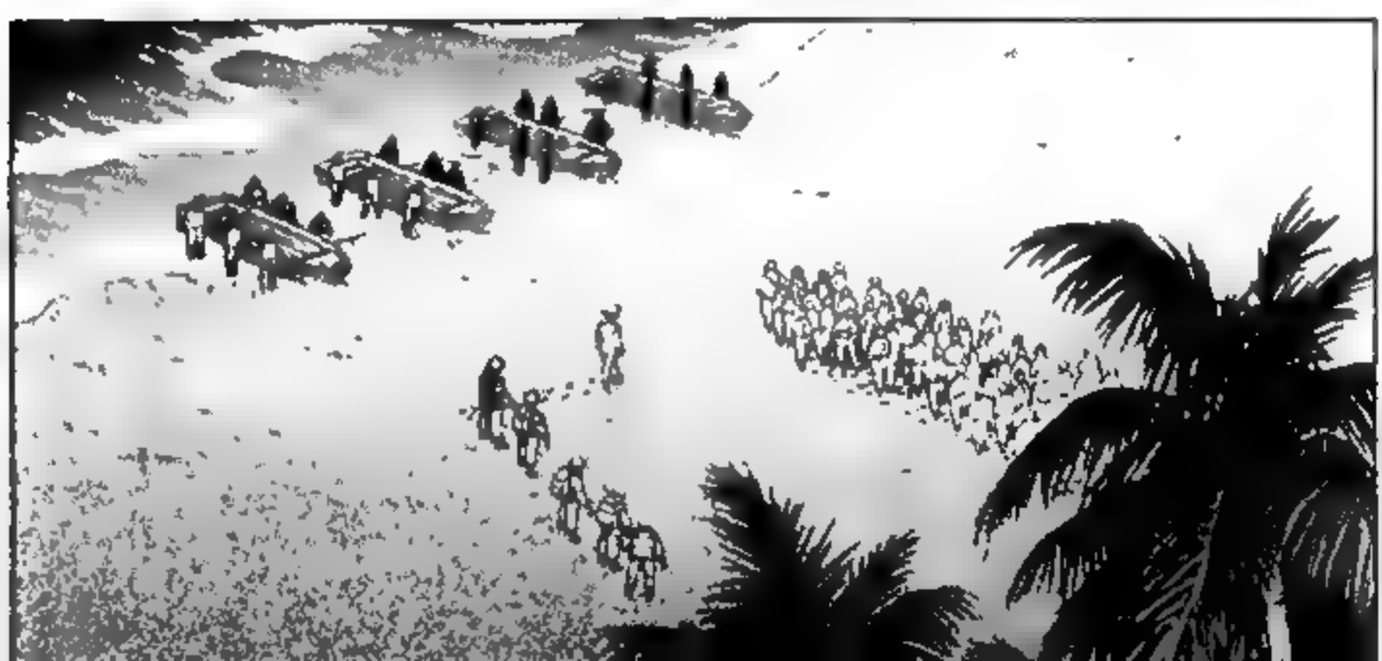

WEST OF GUADALCANAL.
CAPE ESPERANCE.

ザバァ…
!!



IN HISTORY BOOKS, THEY TEACH US THAT THE MAJORITY OF MARINES WHO WERE ON THE ISLAND LOST THEIR LIVES HERE.

HISTORY WILL BE REWRITTEN!
HERE TOO...



I'M MONZEN.
THE 34TH DEFENCE FORCES, THE 11TH AND 13TH BRIGADES HAVE ARRIVED.
WE'RE HERE TO RETRIEVE YOU!!!
I'M LIEUTENANT TSUDA, PART OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNI-CATIONS.
THEY...ARE CARRYING NON-STANDARD MILITARY APPAREL. ARE THEY FROM THE IMPERIAL FLEET?
YES. MILITARY SECRET, I'M AFRAID. I CAN'T TELL YOU MORE THAN THIS, BUT...
...THEY'RE HERE ON A SPECIAL MISSION.

OKAMURA IS AN EXCELLENT OFFICER, BUT HE HAS A TENDENCY OF BEING SPONTANEOUS.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WAS GOING THROUGH HIS MIND, BUT ON OUR WAY HERE, HE TOOK SEVERAL OF HIS MEN AND DISAPPEARED IN THE JUNGLE...
WE WERE INFORMED THAT CAPTAIN OKAMURA'S 13TH BRIGADE WOULD BE WITH YOU.
WE WERE ALSO TOLD THERE WOULD BE 2,500 MEN...

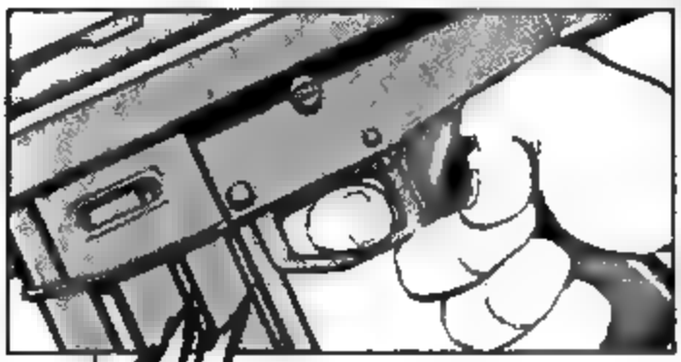
THERE ARE INDEED 2,500 MEN CURRENTLY FLEEING THE ENEMY...
...BUT ONLY 185 HAVE MADE IT HERE FOR THIS RALLY!

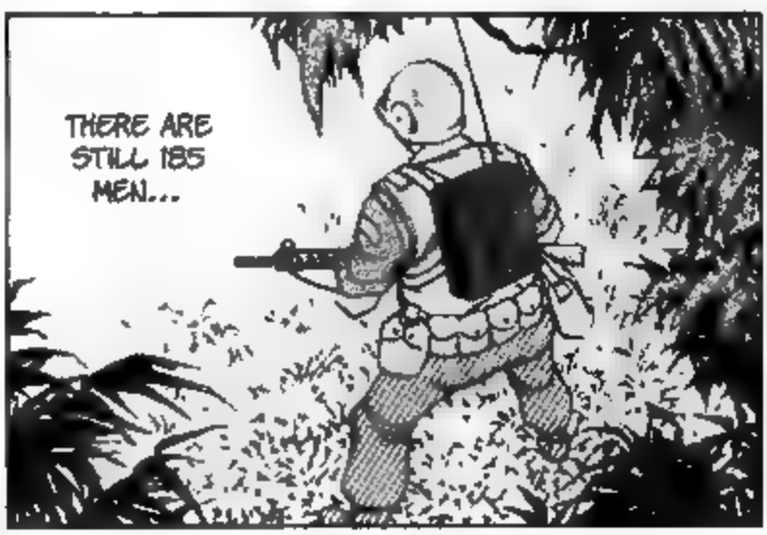
I BELIEVE AT LEAST A THOUSAND OF US SURVIVED, BUT...
THE CANON FIRE AND BOMBING HAVE SEVERED THE CHAIN OF COMMAND...
...AND WE WERE FORCED TO FLEE IN DISORDER INTO THE JUNGLE.

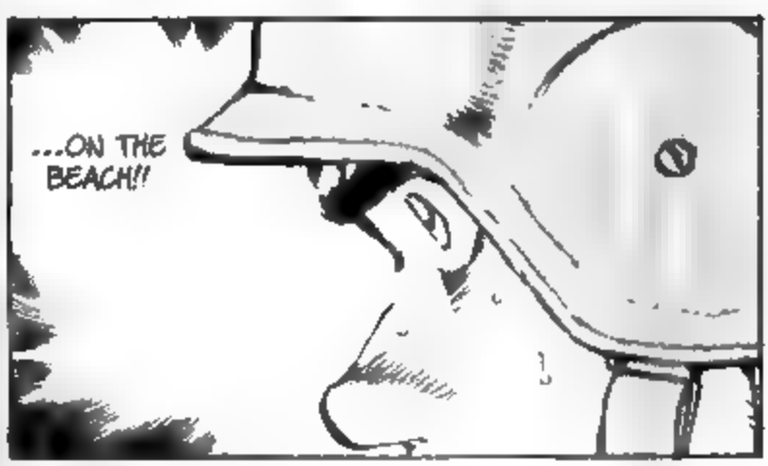
...CONSIDERING THE LOCAL GEOGRAPHY, ORGANIZING A SEARCH PARTY IS UNTHINKABLE... I JUDGED THAT THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY BUT TO LEAVE THEM BEHIND.
QUICKLY!! SPREAD OUT TO THE BOATS!!
I THANK YOU!!
VERY WELL. SPREAD OUT TO THE BOATS.
WE WILL BRING YOU TO TRUK.
COM-MANDER! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
YOU GUYS WAIT HERE.

*NOTE: THIS IS SAID IN ENGLISH

*NOTE: AGAIN IN ENGLISH







AH...

SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND CAPTAIN OKAMURA'S PERFECT ENGLISH...
YOU'RE JAPANESE, AREN'T YOU?

WAKE 41 / END

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EDITORS- MONKRY,
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#E-A@ ON IRCHIGHWAY
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Wake 42

The will of Lieutenant-Commander Okamura

岡村少佐の意思

INDEED I'M A SOLDIER, BUT...
YES AND NO...

YOU'RE WEARING A VERY PECULIAR HELMET, BUT...
...YOU'RE A SOLDIER FROM THE IMPERIAL NAVY ?

MY NAME'S YOSUKE KADO-MATSU.

IT'S THE FAMOUS LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER OKAMURA !!
YES...

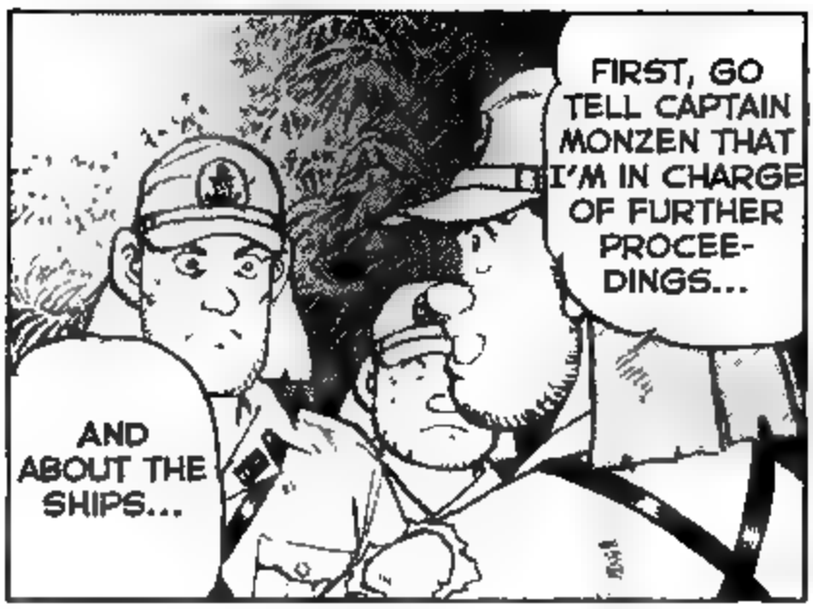
GOOD ! NO DOUBT, YOU'RE A JAPANESE MAN...
I'M OKAMURA FROM THE 13TH CAMP.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR MEN FROM CAMPS THAT DON'T KNOW THEY ARE TO RETREAT.
WELL... TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE, COMMANDER ?

!!
HUM.. IT SEEMS THERE IS NONE AROUND HERE...

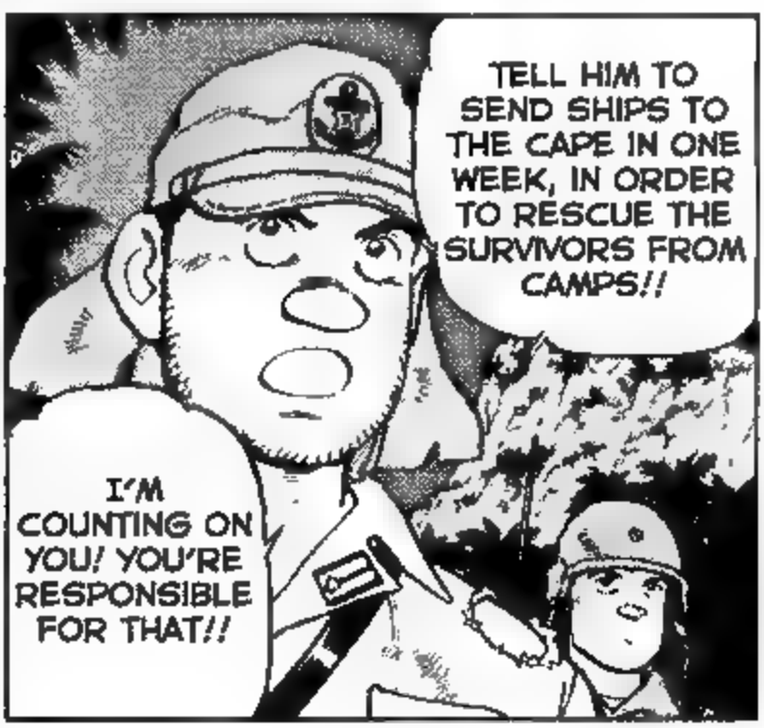
RIGHT! GOOD JOB!
WE'VE SEARCHED THE AREA BUT WE DIDN'T FIND ANYONE!
REPORTING!!
SIR?
HURRY UP, GET TO THE BEACH AND GET INTO SOME CANOES.
TOO BAD... WE DON'T HAVE MORE TIME.
...I'M NOT LEAVING!
WHAT ABOUT YOU LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER?!
ME?
ME?

WHAT WILL YOU DO ALONE?! LET US STAY WITH YOU!!
WHAT?!


FIRST, GO TELL CAPTAIN MONZEN THAT I'M IN CHARGE OF FURTHER PROCEE-DINGS...
AND ABOUT THE SHIPS...

YOU, YOU HAVE ANOTHER MISSION.
THIS IS NOT AN OPTION!

UNDER-STOOD?!


TELL HIM TO SEND SHIPS TO THE CAPE IN ONE WEEK, IN ORDER TO RESCUE THE SURVIVORS FROM CAMPS!!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU! YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT!!

YES, SIR!!!
HURRY!! DON'T HANG AROUND HERE, THE ENNEMY WON'T HESITATE TO SHOOT YOU AT DAWN!

I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO SEND ME THE BIGGEST SHIP
GOOD !!!

LIEUTENANT YOSHIMOTO! I'M TAKING 4 MEN UNDER MY COMMAND.
I'LL RETURN TO TRUK, WHERE I'LL FULFILL MY MISSION !!!

LIEUTE-NANT-COMMAN-DER!
GOOD LUCK!!!

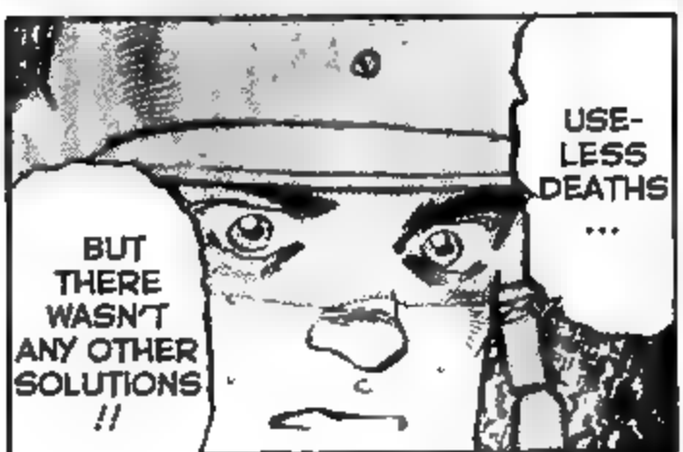
I'VE SEEN...
WELL KADO-MATSU, AREN'T YOU GOING TOO?
IN THE JUNGLE, ON MY WAY HERE,
WHAT?
WHY? WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO STAY?

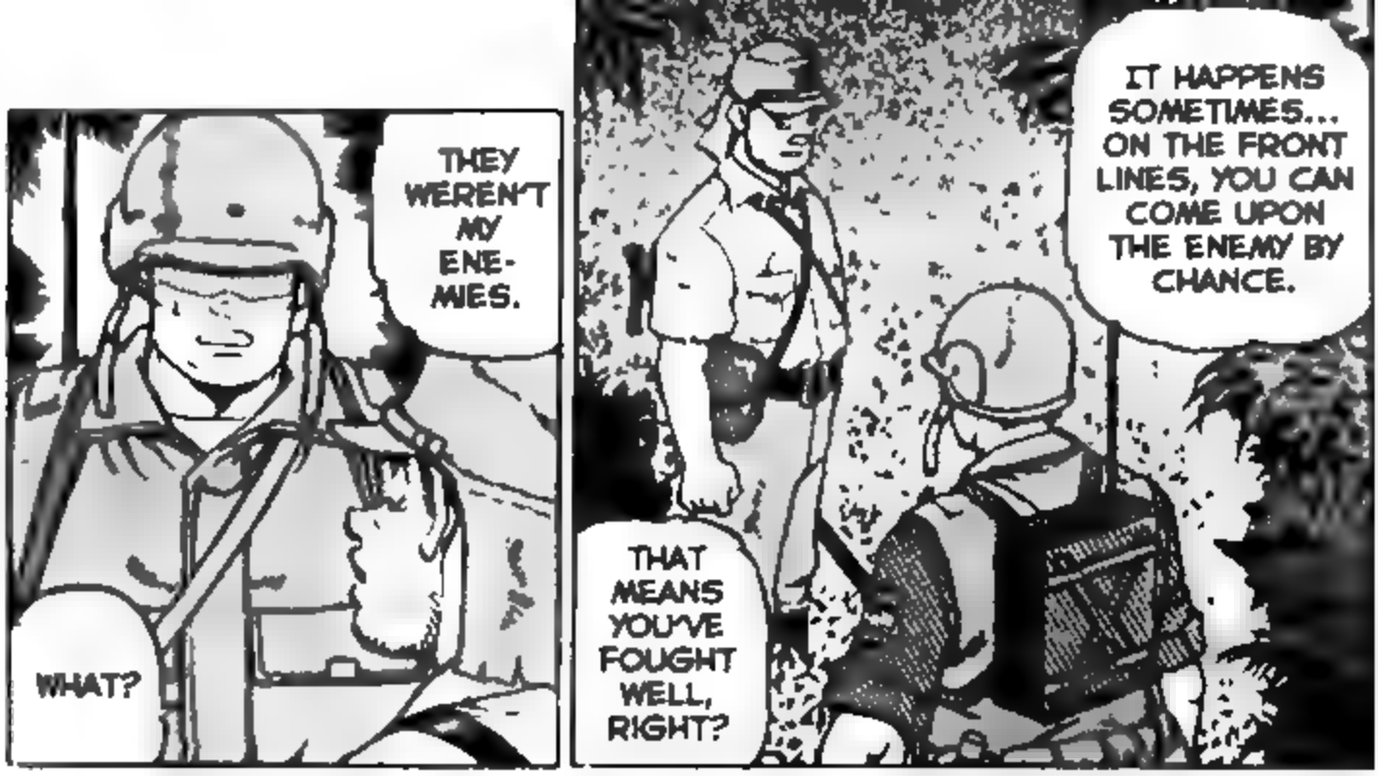
THEY DIDN'T RECEICED THE RETREAT ORDER.
THEY'RE WANDERING IN THE JUNGLE, IN THE COLD, TERRIFIED AND STARVING.
THERE WERE TRACES OF FIRES.
THAT'S PROOF THERE ARE SOLDIERS FROM SOME CAMPS STILL ALIVE.

NOW THAT I KNOW THIS...
... HOW COULD I LEAVE?

EVEN WORSE, THEY'RE NOT EVEN ARMED.
IF WE LEAVE THEM HERE, THEY'LL EVENTUALLY MEET THE AMERICANS... THOSE ARE USELESS DEATHS.

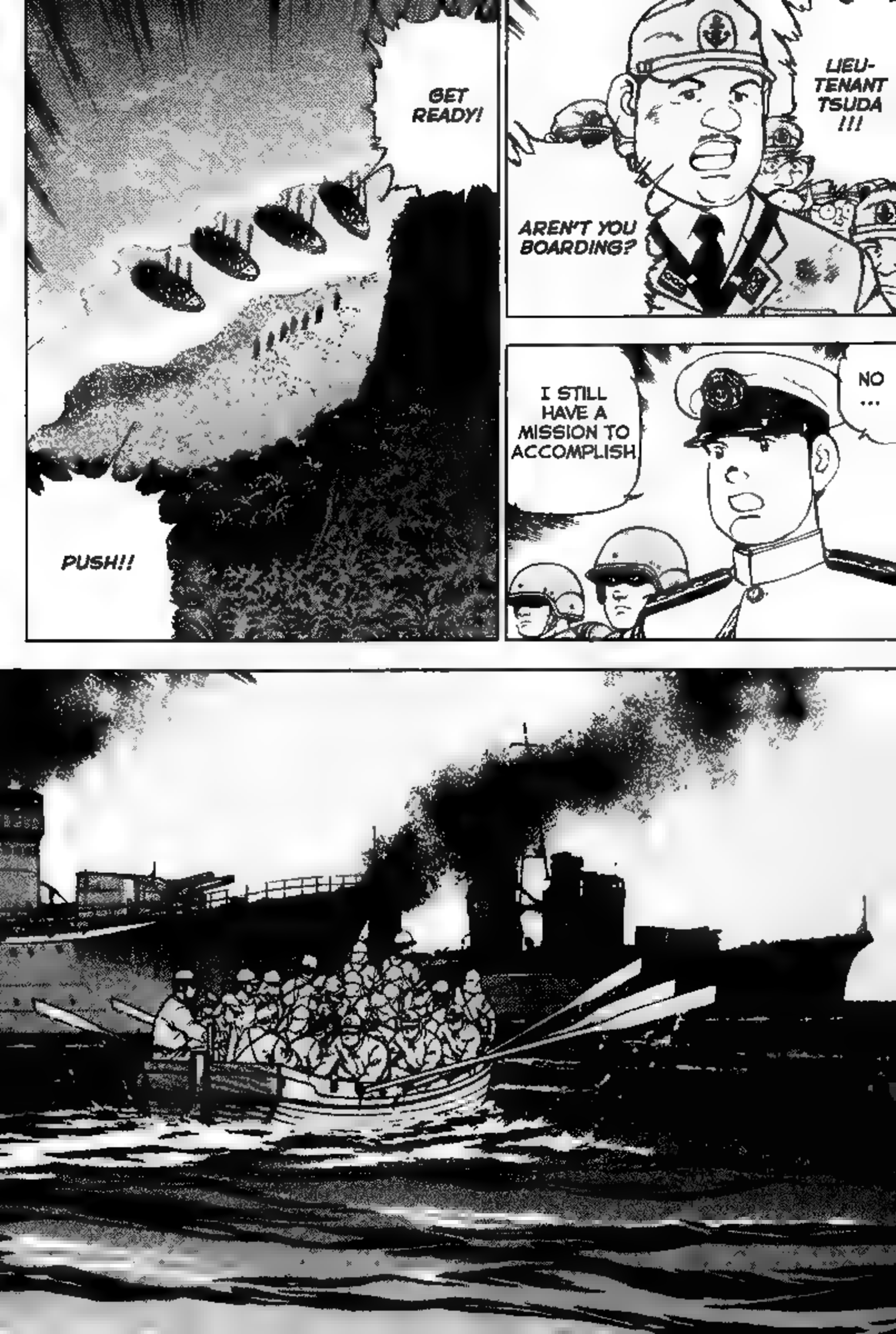
ME TOO. TWO DAYS AGO...
... I KILLED 8 AMERICAN SOLDIERS.


USE-LESS DEATHS ...
BUT THERE WASN'T ANY OTHER SOLUTIONS !!


THEY WEREN'T MY ENE-MIES.
WHAT?
IT HAPPENS SOMETIMES... ON THE FRONT LINES, YOU CAN COME UPON THE ENEMY BY CHANCE.
THAT MEANS YOU'VE FOUGHT WELL, RIGHT?

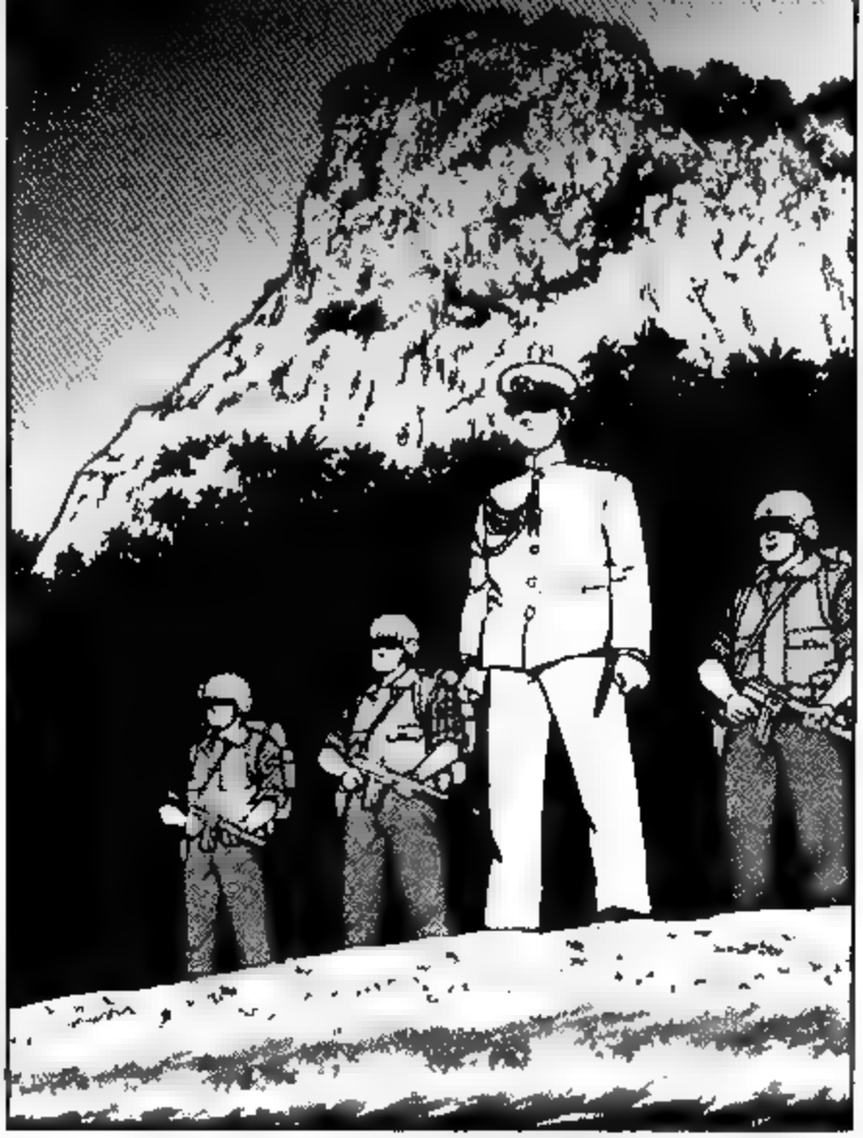
!?
I... I'M NOT A MAN FROM 1942, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC WAR.

FOR ME, THIS WAR WAS OVER A LONG TIME AGO.
I'M FROM A JAPAN THAT WILL EXIST 60 YEARS IN THE FUTURE.


GET READY!
PUSH!!
LIEU-TENANT TSUDA !!!
AREN'T YOU BOARDING?
I STILL HAVE A MISSION TO ACCOMPLISH
NO ...

HANG ON LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER !!

WE'LL BE BACK AT ALL COSTS!!



ACCORDING TO OUR HISTORICAL ARCHIVES, IN A WEEK, YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO FIGHT WITH TROOPS SENT HERE.

SO, THIS ISLAND ...
... IS THE PLACE OF A SHEER TRAGEDY? ...

I KNOW THAT...
... IT'S PROBABLY HARD TO UNDER-STAND.

AND YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO SURVIVE.
BUT YOUR MEN WOULDN'T BE BACK FOR YOU.

I KNOW ...
I CAN FEEL THAT YOU'RE ALSO NOT A MANIPULATOR ...
NOT SO MUCH...
THOSE WHO CAN'T LIE TO THEMSELF... CAN'T LIE TO OTHERS AS WELL.

YOU'RE NOW WELL AWARE OF THE DANGER, BUT YOU'RE STILL STAYING?
I'M SURE THE ONE YOU KNOW AND WHO SURVIVED ...
... WAS REGRETFUL
YES, I UNDERSTAND.
CONTACTING THE CAMPS CAN'T WAIT, SO...

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER ŌKAMURA WILL ALSO LIVE ANOTHER FATE.
BECAUSE OF OUR COMING HERE...

WITHOUT LOOKING FOR AN ESCAPE.
WILL I BE ABLE TO ASSUME MY RESPONSIBILITIES, JUST LIKE THIS MAN?

大本營陸軍部
HEADQUARTERS OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY

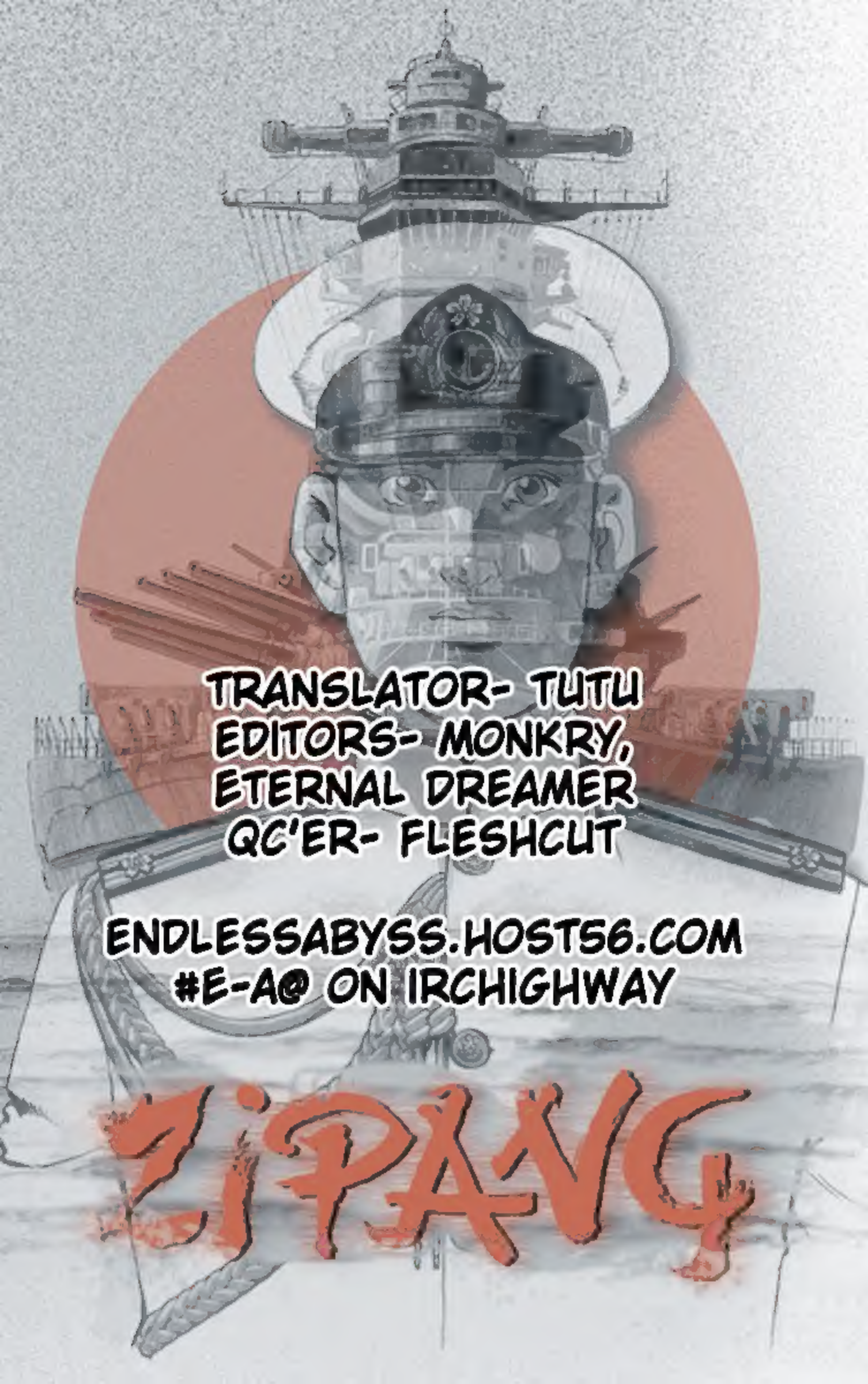
REGAR-
DING THE
SITUATION
N GUADAL
CANA

... THE WORST IS TO BE EXPEC-TED !!!
IF WE DON'T MOVE...
THE MOVES OF THE NAVY AREN'T NORMAL ...
THEY LET THE US ARMY LAND, BUT WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION,
THE AMERICANS ARE FINISHING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE AIR BASE IN GUADALCANAL! WHAT ARE THEIR OBJECTIVES NOW?!
IF THE US ARMED FORCES ARE STILL GOING FORWARD, OUR ONGOING CAPTURE OF PORT MORESBY WILL BE PUT IN JEOPARDY.

AND I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMIND THE NAVY OF ITS DUTIES.
FOR THE BATTLE, THE AIRCRAFTS ARE AS MUCH NEEDED AS THE VIVACITY OF SOLDIERS. THE PROTECTION OF GUADALCANAL MUST BE ENTRUSTED TO THE ARMY.
I'M NOT SURE YOUR HEAD INJURIES ARE HEALED...
YOU ...
!
LET ME DO.
PFFF... COMPARED TO WHAT SOLDIERS AT THE FRONT ARE ENDURING, THIS IS ONLY A MINOR INJURY...

EVEN WITH MY IGNORANCE, ME, MASANOBU TSUJI...
THE NAVY IS DOING UNEXPLAINED MOVES?

...
I PROMISE TO EXPLAIN IT ALL.
4 Fin.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A SHAMELESS E-A RECRUIT PAGE

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

TRANSLATORS

JAPANESE OR TRADITIONAL CHINESE

EDITORS

KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND PHOTOSHOP
AND WILLING TO DO REDRAWS

QUALITY CHECKERS

NEED EXPERIENCE IN OTHER GROUPS

RAW PROVIDERS

LIVE IN JAPAN OR TAIWAN
AND HAVE A SCANNER

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